

THE SENATE DEBATES

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

FIRST SESSION 1981 – 86

THE SENATE

Wednesday, 16th September, 1981.

The Senate met in the Senate Chamber, Public Buildings on Wednesday, 16th September, 1981 at 2.40 p.m., today.

PRESENT

His Honour Senator the Honourable Sir ARNOTT CATO, M.B., Ch.B., LL.D., (President); 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, Office of the Prime Minister); 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 M. C. C. WARD; Senator StC. E. HOWELL; Senator Mrs. M. O. REECE; Senator E. E. GREAVES, B.A., Ed.M.; Senator W. W. HALL; Senator A. W. A. McCLEAN; Senator C. D. SEALE; Senator the Rev. Can. I. McK. JONES and Senator K. A. ROUSE.

Prayers were read by Senator the Rev. Canon I. McK. Jones.

ABSENT

Senator C. I. E. DEANE; Senator Miss J. CLARKE and Senator Mrs. G. G. READER, M.B.E.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

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

Leave Passages (Amendment) Order, 1981.

Income Tax (Amendment) Regulations, 1981.

Income Tax (Tax Credit) Regulations, 1981.

Statement showing Net Customs and Excise Receipts for the month of April, 1981.

Accountant General's Report for the Financial Year 1980–1981.

Report on the Registration Office and Supreme Court Registry for the year 1979.

Report of the Registrar of Trade Unions for 1979–80.

Instruments adopted at the 66th Session of the International Labour Conference held in June, 1980.

National Assistance (Amendment) Regulations, 1981.

Statements of Accounts of the Child Care Board for the years 1978/79 and 1979/80 and the Auditor General's Reports thereon.

Annual Reports of the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation for the years 1975, 1976 and 1977.

Financial (Drug Service) (Amendment) Rules, 1981.

Annual Report and Statement of Accounts of the Barbados Community College for the year 1979–1980.

Annual Report and Statement of Accounts of the Barbados Caves Authority for the year 1979–1980.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

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

A Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Rockley, Christ Church, for the provision of a beach facility and accommodation for beach vendors.

A Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Bay Street, St. Michael, to provide office accommodation for the Child Care Board.

A Resolution to approve the lease of land at Baga-telle, St. James to Trowel Plastics (Barbados) Limited.

A Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Church Village, St. Michael for the Church Village Re-development Project.

The second Resolution, Mr. President, is urgent and I would have asked members to accommodate us by doing it today, but I have not seen the files in relation to it, in which case it will just have to stand over, Sir.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (GENERAL) (AMENDMENT) (No. 3) ORDER, 1981

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. President, Orders No.1 and No. 2 which we shall take — and we shall take things exactly as they are on the Order Paper this afternoon, Sir — and Orders No. 1 and No. 2 should have been in the name of Senator the Honourable O'Brien Trotman who deals with Public Service matters, Sir.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Very well, Senator Trotman.

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: Mr. President, the Civil Establishment Act, Cap. 21, provides in section 2 that the Minister responsible for Establishments may from time to time by Order —

- (a) establish offices in the Public Service;
- (b) determine the number of persons who may be appointed to such offices;
- (c) determine the emoluments attached to such offices; and
- (d) authorise the payment of the cost of passages of officers and their families travelling outside Barbados.

In accordance with that provision, Sir, the Civil Establishment Order, No. 3, of 1981 has been made by the Minister responsible and it has been approved by the Other Place. It is necessary for this Chamber to concur in that Resolution before the officers can receive their pay.

Mr. President, it is becoming popular to see in the newspapers how many people got laid off, how many people are out of work, all the bad things that happen to workers, and it is not very often that one sees an article in the paper, or hears on the radio, anything which suggests that more people are being employed in any particular sector of Barbados. In 1975, Sir — and I say 1975 because that was the last Establishment Order before the great day of 1976 — in 1975, Sir, the Public Service had 7,317 established offices in it.

At the end of August, 1981, that has increased to 8,458. Some 1,000 more persons were working on the permanent established staff than in 1975. The unestablished staff with whom we will deal later had 1,709 persons working, and at the end of August, there were 1,830. The temporary staff has also moved from 1,353 to 1,295.

The Resolution with which we are dealing this afternoon seeks to upgrade 1,341 persons in the Public Service of Barbados, and from 1st April, 1981, 1,341 persons will have their posts paid at a better rate than was paid before. The cost of the exercise to taxpayers is \$1,711,670 and that sum, Sir, is what is required to meet the monthly paid bill for the upgradings which we are doing. The details of the upgradings are shown in the Addendum, but the biggest change in any one department takes place in the Police Department where there are 87 new posts.

The order in general provides for an increase of 103 new posts, 87 of which will go to the Police Department. Other departments involved in the regradings are the Attorney General's Chambers, the Prime Minister's Office, Cabinet, Agriculture. The Met. Office is also having some regradings.

In the Post Office, Sir, there are no new posts, but at present the persons who work in the Post Office are considered part of the General Service. This Order seeks to, as it were, close the Post Office to ensure that the expertise gained in postal administration is not lost because people are promoted out of the Post Office and therefore instead of having 110 posts of clerical officer in the Post Office, there will now be 110 postal clerks; instead of seven assistant accountants, they will be styled assistant postal accountants, etc., the whole point being to ensure that the special knowledge which is gained in the Post Office is not wasted in the general service.

The Public Relations Department, which has for some time been neglected, has got some meaningful upgradings under the Order, and they have benefitted as well.

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

Mr. PRESIDENT: It is proposed that the Senate concur in this Resolution on the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 3) Order, 1981.

I noticed that Senator Greaves is trying to get to his feet. Perhaps I should explain for the purpose of the newer members who may have served in another place, not necessarily in this one, that when a motion is made, it has to be proposed to the House before any discussion can take place on it. So I formally propose the motion and then it is open to members to catch the Chair's eye. Senator Greaves.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Thank you, Mr. President. It is clear that you recognised the fact that I still have been labouring under what takes place in the other Chamber, and I can assure you that it was done merely to ensure that I caught your eye before the motion was put. Now that I know the procedure, I am sure that that particular difficulty would no longer arise.

Mr. President, in looking at this particular Civil Establishment Order, it is clear that it has fairly wide implications for the entire public service, and I would like in making my contribution to view this as far as the general impact which changes, reclassifications and regradings which have taken place can and will have on the public service, at the same time, of course, not omitting to look at the kind of policies which are pursued by this administration through, therefore, the civil service. I would like to suggest at the very outset that I will necessarily have to touch a wide range of areas, because, as I said, I consider that these proposals are wide ranging and far-reaching.

Now Senator Trotman in introducing this Resolution alluded to the number of people who are going to be affected by this regrading or reclassification. I want to say at the very outset that I do not believe that anybody in this Chamber or any reasonable person should or would adopt a position against any kind of reclassification or regrading which will put workers in a better position, whether it is from the point of view of bringing them more money or erasing some of the difficulties and anomalies which exist in a particular situation. I would like to point out at the very outset, therefore, that that being my position, that is being a person who has been in this field of representing workers both in the public sector and in the private sector for a number of years, almost fourteen years now, you would know where I am coming from.

When you see reclassifications and regradings take place which will not solve any particular problem or

which rather than solving the difficulties which one would expect they would solve, create other more serious problems and more serious anomalies, then I am saying that this is a matter for concern. I would like to say, Mr. President, that the particular job which was done in this exercise was an extremely bad job. I believe that Senator Trotman would be able, at least to verify this since my understanding is that he did serve in another capacity before relating to a trade union, but in 1974 when I think the last reclassification exercise took place in this country, that took almost two years to complete. It was not of course, a matter which was rushed through hurriedly as is the particular case in this exercise.

Reclassification or regrading, I am submitting, Mr. President, must have some kind of scientific base. It is a scientific exercise. One has got to look at the overall service and try to establish proper relationships. Again in 1974, as I said, that exercise took about two years to complete and I can recall that efforts were made to find out from other countries in the Caribbean, and I think that a team from the Establishments Division and from the Chief Personnel Officer's office went to Jamaica to try to establish some kind of relationship to find out what was happening there in the public service with a view to ensuring that those persons who were working in the public service would at least get the benefit of some kind of experience and some kind of scientific analysis. I am saying and I am charging, Mr. President, that this was not done in this particular exercise. Proper investigations were not carried out.

As a matter of fact, it seems very clear to me that this seemed to have been the work of just one or two people. The Unions in the Public Service which represent the workers in this area, the National Union of Public Workers and the Barbados Workers' Union, I do not believe that either of them can say that there was proper consultation or enough consultation on this particular matter.

I know, for example, that there was a meeting with the National Union of Public Workers, a meeting at which, as I am informed, very little discussion took place on the Air Traffic Control Officers but apart from that, there was not the kind of consultation which one would expect with an Order like this. What one has to realize, Mr. President, is that, when we are dealing with personnel matters, we have to deal with them as personnel matters and we must not deal with them in a personal way. It is a very, very important difference there and I believe and I am predicting that the result of this exercise will cause more trouble and confusion in the Public Service than there has ever been. I am further predicting, Mr. President, that in less than two years' time there will have to be another reclassification exercise in the Public Service as a result of what I

consider to be the nonsense which has been done in the guise of a reclassification in this area.

It is clear, Mr. President, to everyone that when this kind of exercise takes place, when there is no proper consultation, when matters are not clearly thought out, the kind of confusion and the kind of anomalies which will result will lead to obvious discontent within the ranks of the work force and I am saying that this is what will happen in this particular area. It is fairly clear that if workers are discontented, then their whole attitude will be affected and I would think that the Government should have paid very close attention to this particular matter and indeed to this particular exercise.

I think that everyone is agreed that the Public Service is in need of restructuring, maybe a complete restructuring. I think that time ought to be taken to pay some very serious attention to this particular matter. One would expect that there is need -- and I notice that Senator Barrow made mention of this recently when he was addressing a group of Managers of Statutory Corporations -- the remarks which were made could in some ways apply to some sections of the Public Service. But what I would like to see, and it is quite clear that there is a need, is the general acceptance and general application of modern management techniques and concepts within the entire Public Service so as to avoid the high level of wastage which at present takes place within the service and at the same time be able to cope with the multifarious activities with which a government in a modern state, must of necessity, become involved.

One can see the government, as it were, extending its tentacles in almost every area of economic activity in this country, a semi-business kind of operation, but the decision makers, I am submitting, must be the kind of people who have the kind of training which will enable them to make decisions which will ensure that the best results are obtained in any particular exercise so that when, as I said, we look at this whole question of regrading and the whole question of the reclassification, I cannot be convinced that enough thought and care has gone into this particular exercise.

There are, as I said, a number of anomalies which have arisen. Every day there are new anomalies arising. I understand in the area of the Accountants and the Financial Officers there are problems arising in that area, in the nursing area and in the area of Nursing Assistants. There is a problem which has arisen there which would obviously have to be looked at because the new arrangements will see a demotion, as it were, of the Nursing Assistants who before could go beyond the qualification bar from Z.22 to Z.23 and I understand that there is some limitation on that particular point now.

I have also been informed that at other levels one will find other areas of discontent. I would just like to say on this particular matter, if I can move on to the area of general comments, the Order seeks to regrade a number of posts in the Public Service. I wonder why it is that we have not reached a point in this country where we can recognize the importance of certain key revenue earning departments in this country, as for example, the Customs and the Inland Revenue Departments.

Now I know that the regrading will see an improvement in the positions of the Comptroller of Customs and the Commissioner of Inland Revenue. Just let me say that I do not hold a brief for either of those persons but it well seems to me that the time has come when persons occupying those key positions should be more or less at the top of the Public Service in terms of pay because they have very important departments to administer and I would have thought that the opportunity would have been taken by the Government to recognize this particular fact and to do something in this particular area.

I hope that when the new reclassifications take place, which, as I predicted, will not be longer than two years hence, that some consideration will be given to this particular point. It is a serious point I am making which I would hope that some serious attention would be paid to by the Government.

I see that, in the general regrading, the position of Chief Labour Officer has been improved. I would like to say, Mr. President, that this is a step in the right direction, small though it may be. There has been severe criticism of the Labour Department in the Other Place and in other places because there is a feeling, and justifiably so, that the Department of Labour plays a very crucial role or should play a very crucial role in our industrial relations system in this country -- and if we consider the matter of relationships at work and the matter of industrial relationship is important for our economic stability and our social stability and that these are important from the point of view of the kind of society that we can eventually have.

Therefore we have to pay more attention to ensuring that the Department of Labour is able to function in an effective and in an efficient manner. I am saying that, at the present time, the way in which the Department of Labour is structured, even the way in which it is treated in the general service of this country, leaves a lot to be desired.

I would like to see not only the Chief Labour Officer and the Deputy Chief Labour Officer being upgraded, but I would like to see a complete restructuring in the Department of Labour. I will tell you why, Mr.

President. There is a lot of legislation, some of which has been passed and some of which is pending which will impose a lot of pressure on the Labour Department. Take, for example, the recently passed Bill on safety and health. The kind of work that will have to be done by the Department of Labour if the provisions of that Bill are to be carried out will be tremendous. I am saying that the Department of Labour, as it is presently staffed and as one could see it being staffed in the foreseeable future, cannot cope with the demands of that particular situation, but that is just one aspect of the work of the Department of Labour. What about the area related to, generally speaking, investigations whether to do with Shop Assistants, dealing with hours of work or any other of the many areas that the Department has to become involved in.

I do not understand, therefore, why at a time like this when the Government is in possession of this information, when the Government should recognise that the Department of Labour is a vital department in this country, when you are reclassifying and regrading, that an opportunity has not been taken to really do the right thing in the department and have a department as indeed was done in the Ministry of Public Relations. (ASIDES)

Mr. PRESIDENT: Order, please.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. President, what I cannot understand is how, because I notice I think Senator Trotman was shaking his head, as if to suggest that this could not have been done — it was Senator Linton, I am sorry — what I am saying is that in the same way as an opportunity was taken to upgrade the Public Relations Department, to extend the staff, I believe, in the Public Relations Department. This I do not think that one would really consider that quite apart from the misinformation, would you accept that, Mr. President, that quite apart from the propaganda and, this is not being used in the true sense, the slanted information which the Government Information Service, and the Public Relations Department, the Ministry of Information, whatever you want to call it, put out, I do not think that that is a department — if that department disappears from the scene tomorrow, it would not make any difference. It would not make a difference to some people, I know that, I would understand, I see the Honourable Minister shaping up, I would understand it would make a difference to the Honourable Minister, but it is not going to make any difference to the life in this country. But, I am saying that since you could take the opportunity to do that with this department which is not a vital department, why is it that the Government could not have taken the opportunity at this time to deal in a similar way with the Department of Labour. I think we understand what is happening and I think we under-

stand very clearly that the present occupant of the position of Minister of Information is a very powerful person within the Government, I understand it.

During the DLP administration there was some talk of the second most powerful man. I believe that the Honourable Minister of Information, from the kind of Ministries and departments that he has been able to gather around him, the kind of influence that he seems to be exercising within the Government, must either make him the number one, well, the most important man in this country or not too far from that, it is very, very clear. Imagine the Honourable Minister of Information can get this kind of thing done, he can be able to convince a Cabinet about something that is of little or no consequence to this country and he could not, or the other Honourable Minister or the Honourable Minister of Labour could not, on the other hand, convince the Cabinet about the important role which the Department of Labour should play and can play in this country. I am really grieved, Mr. President, to see what has taken place in this matter.

I notice that under the Ministry of Finance and Planning, there is the establishment on a proper footing of the Insurance Section. The note reads:

"The reorganization of the Insurance Section as above would facilitate the implementation of certain provisions of the Insurance Act, Cap. 310 which are not now being fully covered at present because of staff limitations."

I did not get an opportunity to see what Cap. 310 is, but maybe my colleague will pass it there for me, but I believe that it has possibly to do with the whole question of investigating insurance companies in Barbados and to see that they comply with the requirements relative to registration and the other requirements which are needed for an insurance company to be set up in this country. I would like to say, I think, that it is important to see that this is done. Remember that this legislation and the Insurance Section was set up way back in the early seventies. But there have been difficulties and problems relating to a number of insurance companies, I think that it is a step in the right direction that we have the kind of investigative and the kind of supervision provisions and personnel to ensure that insurance companies do not take people's money and abscond with such as happened in a particular case of recent memory which I will allude to shortly.

As I said, there are a number of insurance companies in Barbados. They are taking people's money. A number of industrial insurance companies in Barbados operate on the general level of what we would describe as the working class, the weekly paid people and, sometimes, I do not believe that they are always told the truth about the kind of insurance which they have let themselves in

for. I know of many cases where people thought that they had a particular kind of insurance where they were as it were paying through their noses and when the day of reckoning came, they did not have the kind of insurance that they thought they had and they found themselves in some difficulty. I said that I would allude to the collapse of an insurance company which I raised in the Lower House sometime ago in 1980. I am referring to the First Federation Life Insurance Company and I would hope that one of the Honourable Ministers would be in a position to let us know something today, or at the next sitting of this Honourable Chamber about the position relating to that.

In looking through the list of persons who had money in that insurance company, the First Federation Life Insurance Company, I saw the name of one O'Brien Trotman who was owed about three hundred and something dollars. What I am saying is that even an Honourable Senator was taken for a ride by this insurance company, and I must say that for an Honourable Senator, a man of the distinction, of the stature and of the position — purely political, all political — in this country to be taken advantage of like that by an insurance company, can you imagine what was the plight of those persons who knew little or nothing about what was going on?

The Government had, and I am contending still has, a very serious responsibility to those 3,100 policyholders of the First Federation Life Insurance Company which collapsed here in 1980, I think it was. Those persons have been left, as it were, holding the bag, not benefitting from anything, and I am saying that the Government with that kind of experience now should be in a position where they should be talking about some kind of contingency fund or something along that line to guarantee those policyholders of insurance companies who might find themselves in a position similar to those policyholders of the First Federation Life Insurance Company.

The Prime Minister, when this matter was raised in the Lower House, made all sorts of promises about what he was going to do for these policyholders. I do not know if Senator Trotman got his particular matter settled, but I know of literally dozens, scores of people who today are still asking me and are still asking questions about what has happened with their money in the First Federation Life Insurance Company. I pointed out to the Prime Minister during that debate that the First Federation Life Insurance Company owned an area of land next to the Purity Bakery in Collymore Rock. As I recall, the promise was made that the land would be taken over and sold in an effort to see what kind of money could be raised to assist these policyholders.

I would hope, therefore, Mr. President, that the Government would pay some attention to this and that

one of the Hon. Ministers would, if not now, at some future date, give us some indication as to what will be happening in this particular area. I think that this is of sufficient concern to us that we ought to pay some serious attention to this particular matter.

I notice, Mr. President, that this Order seeks to provide regrading in the Prime Minister's Office and in the Ministry of Finance and Planning also. I said at the outset that my presentation would pay attention to the functioning of these Ministries, the Ministries covered here, and would attempt to examine some of the policies which are being pursued by these Ministries, and indeed would be critical of some of these policies.

Now I see that, as I said, in the Prime Minister's Office the Permanent Secretary to the Prime Minister will be regraded from B to A, there is going to be the abolition of a post of Secretary and a post of Assistant Secretary, they will be establishing posts and there will be the upgrading of the post of Private Secretary, etc. In the context of the policies pursued by the Ministry of Finance and Planning, I would like to say, Mr. President, that they are very damaging to this country. Evidence of this finally came home to the notice of the people of this country within the last couple of weeks. You would recall that soon after the June 18 General Elections, an event which was characterised by all sorts of glowing tributes to the supposedly sound management of the economy, slogans such as "we never had it so good" and everything was fine and rosy, and as has been described in a famous newspaper column, Barbados was projected as the El Dorado of the Caribbean, milk and honey was flowing in Barbados and there was a lot of gold. That is the impression which was given of this economy, but within a matter of days — I almost said hours — of being returned to power, what did we find happening? We immediately began to hear the Prime Minister making all sorts of noises and complaints about(ASIDES). I am dealing with the Prime Minister's Office, if you cannot read do not blame me.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Order, order. Senator Greaves you will have to tie in what you are saying with the Resolution that is before us with respect to regrading of posts, not a matter of policies, and I do not want you to stray. Although I do not like to correct members too much I would not want you to stray from the particular subject before us.

SENATOR GREAVES: I appreciate, Mr. President, and certainly recognise the directions you are giving. If we are going to be talking about posts in the Prime Minister's Office, we are talking about regrading, upgrading and increasing posts in the Prime Minister's Office, presumably because there is so much work to be done, there are so many policies to be enunciated that you need to have the kind of personnel in order to deal

with the problems, and indeed, Mr. President, the economic and financial position of this country is of such importance that you need to have these kinds of people to deal with these particular matters. If you are going to be dealing, therefore, with these persons, increasing and upgrading their status, then I am submitting that I have established the base on which I can proceed with the point which I am making.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Greaves, I think you are making a very great effort but I think that even you are not convinced that you have tied it up. I think there will be plenty of opportunity on other matters in which you can get after the policies, but not in this particular instance. Proceed.

SENATOR GREAVES: Mr. President, I wonder if I should use another technique, but never mind. What I am saying, Mr. President, and I am very serious about this, because one would want to introduce a certain levity in the debate in order to take the tension out, but at the same time I am really making some serious points in this matter.

As I was saying, it would seem as if there is a recognition that our economic position is perilous. The economic position of this country is perilous and for this reason there seems to be the need to increase the number of people in the Prime Minister's Office in order to deal with the wide and varied and complicated matters of economic importance to this country.

Now I thought that having said that I would have been able to proceed to make some of the other substantial points that I would want to make on this, but I see that you are not going to let me. That is no problem. It seems to me that I have not established convincingly the base on which I can launch into an attack on the misguided.....

Mr. PRESIDENT: Do not let us try by all sorts of irregular oblique routes to get at something I told you not to get into. There will be plenty of opportunities at other times.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Well, I would like to conclude my presentation on the Ministry of Finance and Planning, the Ministry of the Attorney General and the Department of Public Prosecutions. There is a letter, Mr. President, in circulation written in response to a request by these legal officers for upgrading and the arguments which they have advanced, a letter from the Chief Establishments Officer describing these officers, as I recall, or linking them to crabs in a barrel or crabs in a bucket. I unfortunately was to have gotten a copy of the letter, but I did not get the chance to pick it up. I can produce it at the next sitting of the Senate. If by

chance we go on and we take a break, I would be able to get the letter in fifteen minutes. But there is quite seriously, and I hope you would be able to take my word for it, such a letter. I know that Senator Barrow can verify me on this and also Senator Trotman would know about the letter from the Chief Establishments Officer mirroring the opinions of the Prime Minister....

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: On a point of order, I would wish to find out exactly what it is now that the Honourable Senator is suggesting I can agree with him on. After hearing him speak so long this evening, I think it is entirely out of order for him to suggest that I can verify something that he is perhaps pulling from his imagination, I don't know.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Quite apart from that matter of whether you can verify or not, I think the Chair and the members would wish you to produce something for which you are seeking verification.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: I will desist from that line and produce the letter later, but I think that for many years these legal officers were presenting an argument for a regrading of their position, and it is good to see that, in spite of all that has been said, in spite of the strictures which might have been levelled at them, this regrading is taking place. I believe they are also occupying a key position in the public service and their professional expertise should be adequately and properly rewarded.

Under the Ministry of External Affairs, I see that there is the creation on a permanent basis of a post of driver-messenger. I was just wondering if this is in Barbados or in Canada where Lester Whitehead is going to be High Commissioner. Is this for Barbados? (*Asides*)

Mr. President, what I would like to find out is whether this driver-messenger is for the Barbados office or if it is for the office of the High Commissioner in Canada or New York for that matter. I would like to get some indication because, seeing that a new High Commissioner is going to Canada, I was wondering if you were going to take along a driver or messenger. Sir, I would like to get some clarification on this particular matter.

My colleague is going to deal with aspects of the Ministry of Agriculture and I do not want to tread on that, but there is a lot to be said about the failure of the Ministry of Agriculture to give direction to agriculture in this country. A lot has to be said for that and a lot will be said about the colossal failure of this very important Ministry in this country, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs; but there will be a lot of time for that.

Under the Meteorological Department I see that they are going to create some posts: one Deputy Director and one Senior Meteorological Assistant. I think that modern weather forecasting demands that, particularly in the Caribbean where we are in the path of hurricanes, we have the very best expertise and possibly the very best equipment to be able to forecast accurately or reasonably accurately this whole question of the variances which will take place in the weather from time to time particularly in the season known as the hurricane season, which I think begins in June and ends somewhere in October. Recent events have proven very clearly to us that we have to be more than ready, and our information must be as up to date as possible, and this is why we would agree with the creation of these posts in the Meteorological Department, and hope that the Department will go from strength to strength, that the Department will be able to continue to deliver to Barbadians and to people in the Eastern Caribbean that kind of expertise and information which has stood Barbados and people in the Eastern Caribbean generally speaking in good stead over the last couple of years. I believe that any money which is spent in upgrading this Department is money well spent, not of course like money spent in the Public Relations Department.

In the Post Office, from what I gather, it seems as if an attempt is being made here to develop a professional postal career, that is, that a person going in to work at the Post Office can follow a promotional system within the service and not have a situation where someone can be transferred from the general service into the Post Office without any kind of information or knowledge about the operations or functions of the Post Office, but come in on top and then would have to be taught by some person lower down.

I believe that this is something which has been called for for some time to ensure that those persons with a knowledge of the Post Office and generally speaking of the handling of the mail have the kind of incentive that will encourage them to remain in that particular service.

Mail handling is becoming more and more sophisticated. There are new developments which are taking place in this area and one would wonder in the future what kind of impact the technological developments which have taken place in the area of mail handling would have on the general improvement and the general staff situation in the General Post Office and maybe the Government could give some indication about this, particularly in view of the fact that a new post office is being constructed, and should have been completed this year, but I understand now that it is projected to be completed, according to the Prime Minister, in 1982. From other sources there is indication that it cannot be completed before some time in 1983 but that is just by the way.

The fact of the matter is that you will have in construction a new post office and what I would certainly want to find out is whether we are going to go into that new post office with the old techniques and old methods of handling mail and parcels and the kind of — for the lack of a better word — cargo which passes through the Post Office. I believe that the Post Office, as everybody knows, still plays a very, very important role in our community, not only from the point of view of the business end but also from the point of view of the reliance which still a number of families in this country place on remittances and on that letter coming from Canada, the United States of America or England, as the case may be.

It is a matter of surprise, shock, even grief to learn that quite suddenly the postal rates in this country went up, quite suddenly, without any notice and, unlike what was said in the Other Place yesterday about budgetary measures not being introduced except they came before Parliament, the increase in postal rates is a budgetary measure (ASIDES). Traditionally the increase in postal rates was a budgetary measure and postal rates were increased quite suddenly in this country and I am saying that we are reaching a point where we have to have a very, very serious look at this particular matter.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I do not want to interrupt the hon. member but let this trend become general. I think we ought to realize that matters of that sort are stretching a little bit widely in the field and we ought to confine ourselves to the question of staff. This is an item dealing with reclassification and so on. The staff for instance, is not responsible for the increase in the postal rates. There are plenty of opportunities that will arise when you can criticise these things in their spheres so although I do not want to stop you, do not let us get too far afield in dealing with staff problems.

SENATOR E. GREAVES: Mr. President, I indicated earlier that I was going to wind up and just let me recap. I am saying that this regrading exercise was one which was done hurriedly. It was one which did not pay sufficient attention to the overall personnel within the Public Service but it seems to me to have paid more attention on a personal basis, and I am saying that this will lead to a lot of confusion. It will lead to a lot of discontent and it will lead to a reduction in the effectiveness of the Public Service in this country.

I am calling on the Government to carry out a properly thought out, scientific, careful and analytical reclassification and regrading in the Public Service. That is the only way you will be able to deal with these problems whether it is long drawn out or not. The point is that we wish to have the best results at the end.

This reclassification, admittedly, was not long drawn out, but the Government would soon see, as I am sure they are already beginning to get indications of the anomalies which have been created as a result, I will ask the Government to pay some serious attention to this matter and, rather than waiting until the discontent reaches such a high point in the Service, that they should have another very serious look at this whole question of regrading.

I just want to end by saying, Mr. President, that I am not at all opposed to people getting money. I am not at all opposed to people's position improving. I can well recall when at the beginning of the negotiations in 1980, the Public Service negotiations, the Prime Minister came with two positions. First, he stated that he was very worried with the very narrow differential that existed then between the people in the upper echelons of the Public Service and those at the lower round of the Public Service level. He said that the differential was too narrow and that he was finding it difficult to recruit people in the Public Service, presumably because of this, because that was what followed immediately after that point and it would appear as if, in an effort to correct this situation, he made an offer to the union of an across-the-board 20%. That is, people at the top would have been given 20% and similarly people right at the bottom would have been given 20% and this was rejected.

I am saying that I was interpreting that particular mood in an effort to deal with that particular problem which he talked about. I do not necessarily share that point of view about the narrowness of the differential, because of course, there are perks which Senior Public Servants get which some people in certain areas of employment certainly do not get so that when one is looking at salaries, *per se*, one cannot just use that as a yardstick.

In the Public Service, for example, a number of Permanent Secretaries sit on various Boards for which they collect a fee. They have access to cars, travelling allowance, housing allowance which some of them get. All of these things have to be taken into consideration so that I do not necessarily agree with the view which is expressed about this narrow differential between the top and the bottom but that offer was projected out of hand by the unions negotiating on behalf of the workers in the public sector and it seems very clear to me that this route of regrading is a way of getting around that particular situation.

So that, we have to be very careful in these matters. I say we are not dealing with machines, we are dealing with people and people will react when they see, when they feel and when they know that certain matters are not right and that the positions which they should very well have been in based on comparison with other people,

when they see that this is not taking place, then, obviously, they are going to react and not react in the best way. So, I would hope that this warning will be taken to heart by the Government and that we will see something more positive being done in this particular area.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Simmons.

SENATOR D. A. C. SIMMONS: Mr. President, the Honourable Senator began by saying that the Proposals were wide ranging and far reaching and that the regrading creates anomalies. I took a careful note of the speech of the Honourable Senator and I found that the speech was laced with general comments and no specific example to support the allegations. The only one that the Honourable Senator mentioned was in fact a question about the Nursing Assistants and his comment was that a problem has arisen there and will have to be looked at. But, what was the nature of the problem has been left unsaid before this Honourable Chamber. He did concede that even though the regradings and reclassification in his words, "create anomalies" that the regradings, at another point in his speech, "will see an improvement in the positions of persons like the Comptroller of Customs and the Commissioner of Inland Revenue." He welcomed the improvement in the position of the Chief Labour Officer and said it was a step in the right direction. What I....

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. President....

Mr. PRESIDENT: What are you rising on?

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. President, I rise to clarify a point that he made in reference to something that I said.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Are you on a point of elucidation, then?

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Yes, Sir, a point of elucidation.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Are you giving way?

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

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: The Honourable Senator has said that I said the reclassification will see an improvement in the position of the Commissioner of Inland Revenue and the Comptroller of Customs. What I said is that, even although their position would have improved, the Government did not take the opportunity to push them in a more favourable position while

they occupy two of the major revenue earning departments in this country.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I do not think that the Honourable Senator has said anything different from that. My understanding is that you said that this exercise does improve the position of the Comptroller of Customs and the Commissioner of Inland Revenue but that, perhaps in about two years' time, you will see that they come higher up still in the Service. Go ahead.

SENATOR D. A. C. SIMMONS: Mr. President, I am grateful to you, Sir, that I did accede to my own inclination and give way because the point on which the Honourable Senator rose would only bear out what I was saying, that his speech was interlarded with so many contradictions that he himself is not even certain of what he said, Sir.

Right at the beginning, Sir, I must point out that even though it is well-known that I may have had earlier this year and towards the end of last year certain difficulties with the Ministry of Information, I must make it a matter of public record that I do not at all share, support or agree with the comment made by the Honourable Senator Greaves to the effect that, "the Ministry of Information is not a vital department", I quote his words, and that it is, "of little or no consequence to this country". I entirely dissociate myself from those comments and I will give reasons shortly. All I can say, Sir, is that, with the best will in the world, the comment coming from Senator Greaves has surprised me and I can only conclude that it has been un nourished by sense.

Mr. President, I would like to look at this resolution in a composite light. I see the Civil Service, rightly or wrongly, as being the day to day managers of Government policy, the personnel who have the responsibility to implement, to carry through and see to the effectuation of Government policy. To that extent, the policy-makers in the shape of the Cabinet have to be assured that those day to day managers are, as far as possible, well paid for the job which the public expects them to do and the Cabinet also has to be assured that the civil servants will carry out loyally their responsibilities and will not be overborne by considerations, for example, of dissatisfaction caused by inadequate remuneration. This particular area of Government activity is not one with which I would claim to have any close connection, that is, Establishments, and the implications of a C Grade or a Z17-16, how much money that is and so on. I cannot say I know those by heart, that is not particularly my interest, but the general point I want to make about the Civil Service is that as day to day managers in a developing Third World country in the decade of the eighties, it is crucial for the country's economic, social, and political good health and survival that these managers have some basic skills in management.

It is my belief, Sir, that this country in the decade of the eighties and even beyond will be faced with the problem of management. We can create as many statutory boards, or jobs or whatever. If we are not at the same time training managers to take over and run the businesses, the country is going to find itself in serious waters later on in this decade. Therefore, it is welcome that some attempt has been made in the Ministry responsible for Establishments to meet these needs if only by a regrading and reclassification.

I will come to the question of the creation of positions later, Sir, but I hope that the Government will ensure that it has an ongoing programme for the training of personnel at the highest levels of the Civil Service to make sure that wastage which has gone on in the Civil Service over the years will, as far as possible, be eliminated and that the quality of Civil Servant will continue to improve. But, in order to attract personnel of quality to the Civil Service, Civil Service salaries must themselves be competitive with industry or the private sector. They can never in the nature of things be the same, but one of the great difficulties which I believe this Government and the Democratic Labour Party Government before faced was the recruitment of persons both in the Civil Service and in the statutory organisations of the highest calibre, and the difficulty in recruitment was called basically by reason of the low level of salary that was current in those organisations.

Of course, there has always been jealousy between Civil Servants and officers in Statutory Corporations. It is felt within the Civil Service that an officer on a Statutory Board should not work for the same salary as or more than the Permanent Secretary whose Ministry is responsible for that Statutory Board, and I think that that is a problem which has caused great difficulty in the efficiency of Government and quasi-Government Organisations and that there has to be now a rethinking, not only in terms of Statutory Corporations and what they are designed to achieve, but also the link between the Statutory Corporation and the Civil Service.

Sir, about two years ago when I was in the Other Place there was a Private Members' motion on the Order Paper for a very long time calling on Government to set up a Commission or Committee, some body, to enquire into the functioning of the Civil Service and to make recommendations for its improvement, and I think it was the only occasion on which the Government was defeated in the House of Assembly. It was defeated on that particular motion when it finally came for debate because the back bench invited the Opposition to join with the back bench and outvoted the Government's front bench. The Government's front bench was unwilling at the time to have any investigation into the functioning of the Civil Service. I still wish, two years later, to renew the call which I made during that debate, seconding the motion

proposed by Dr. Cheltenham. I still wish to renew the call for Government to pay careful attention to the question of the Civil Service and, if necessary, to set up some committee now, Sir, early in these next five years to look at the functioning of the Civil Service.

Indeed, I go further. It was a matter of regret to me personally that the 1981 Manifesto of the Barbados Labour Party, after four years and nine months in Government, seemed to be deficient in what I consider a material particular, in that there was little in that Manifesto about a rethinking, a reorganisation or another look, or a new look into the Civil Service, into the machinery of Government. I think the Manifesto was deficient in that regard, and I say it publicly as is my wont, Sir, to speak my mind. Notwithstanding that, there are features of this Resolution which must commend themselves to Hon. Senators, and in particular I look at Item 4 on page 5 — Police Department — and I see the creation of 87 posts. I think this is a step in the right direction, Sir, but then again let me issue a caveat. I sincerely trust that the mere creation of these additional posts will not appear to be the solution for the problems of crime detection that exist in Barbados today. It seems to me that one has to go further than the mere creation of posts, but the Government, this Government as distinct from the Democratic Labour Party Government, has shown the political will to do something about the Police Department.

More policemen were trained abroad last year than at any time during the Democratic Labour Party regime 1971 to 1976, and there has been an ongoing set of training for policemen particularly in the CID and in other special areas. I have just returned from London on a plane with a Police Inspector who is in the control room. He had been to Sweden, I think it was, for two weeks and Government in terms of the training of the police has given the police in Barbados a better deal than any other Government. In terms of facilities provided for the police this Government has given the police a better deal than any other Government. In terms of the salaries earned by the police this Government has given a better deal than any other Government, but I think the Police Department itself has to be introspective and examine the quality of person that it is attracting. Some of them in their handwritten statements, sometimes you find the nouns and verbs in disagreement. The quality of recruit is vital to the future well-being of the Police Service, but if the provision of 87 new jobs will assist in enabling the police to bring about a reduction in the crime rate, then all Barbadians, not only Senators, should welcome what we are being asked to concur in today.

It seems that the police need within their ranks to develop a kind of strategy committee to make a concerted and informed attack on crime in Barbados. There are areas which should be policed that are not being

policed, and I do not believe, Sir, that the Police Force can complain that nothing is being done to assist it.

The Ministry of the Attorney General in terms of the increases for the Deputy Solicitor General or the regrading for the Deputy Solicitor General and the Deputy Chief Parliamentary Counsel, these are important. Not only in Barbados, but I venture to say in the whole of the Caribbean and especially recently in Trinidad, there has been evidence that fewer and fewer people are being attracted to the legal service of Governments in the Caribbean, again because of the disparity between incomes earned in the civil service by lawyers and incomes allegedly earned by lawyers in private practice. There is a lot of assumption about how much lawyers in private practice make. To tell, Sir, I would have to declare my interest and I am not prepared to do it on this Resolution. Mr. President, we have read and have been told, most of us, of the mass resignations that affect the Legal Department of the Trinidad Government. Even in Barbados there have been resignations and people have left Government to take their chance in the world of private practice. I do not think anybody is starving, but the only way we can hold some of these people who have been there or who may have a pension to remain in the legal service is to pay them salaries that are going to be reasonable.

Legal drafting is an area in which there is again a dearth of qualified personnel throughout the Caribbean, and I am grateful that Government has heeded the calls to upgrade the position of the Deputy Chief Parliamentary Counsel. I believe that something a couple of years ago was done in a positive way for the Chief Parliamentary Counsel, but I believe, Sir, that the time will come when Government will have to examine the question of allowing, I say "examine", I am not suggesting that it may be necessarily easy to implement, so I use the word "examine" advisedly, the question as to how officers in the legal service can be allowed some measure of private income by way of private practice. Now I do not think that the problem is insuperable.

In 1972 I believe there was a directive by the then Cabinet which allowed architects, engineers and people in that category at MCW to engage in private practice, provided of course it did not militate against their own substantive duties within the civil service. I believe, subject to correction, that within the medical service there is also a form of scheme under which medical officers can carry on some form of private practice to give them additional income and at the same time to allow them to expand the horizons of their profession by getting sight of an experience in cases or activities in a different sphere apart from the Government activity. I think it has its advantages, and the time will have to come I believe when Government has, as I say, seriously to examine what can be done by way of additional incentive for persons in the legal service.

In respect of the Ministry of Information, Mr. President, which was classified by Senator Greaves as of little or no consequence to this country, I wish to suggest that because the resources of Barbados and the resources of the Ministry of Information and some of the agencies under that Ministry may be scarce, there is no reason to deny the positive role that a Ministry of Information has to play in a third world developing country. I believe, Sir, that there is much information within Government. I do not speak of Government in the sense of just the House of Assembly and the Senate; I see Government in a very broad light, and I am thinking particularly of Government Departments, there is much by way of positive information that can be given to the people on whose behalf the Government is functioning so as to better acquaint them as to what is being done with their money, what policies are being pursued for the enhancement of the quality of life for Barbadians. There is a positive role of education of your nation that can be played by a Ministry of Information in a developing country. We have to grope towards the ultimate that we will all be satisfied, but until we reach that stage of ultimate satisfaction, we have to grope having careful regard to the resources available to the particular organisation. That is not to say, Sir, that there is not much that can be done even now, paltry resources notwithstanding.

For example, in the area of agriculture, the Ministry of Information, C.B.C. have a role to play in giving instructions to farmers via television as to when is the best time for planting. Let me just without going into detail say as to how best they can develop agriculture. Radio and television are two tools that are used to great and telling effect in countries like India and Bangladesh, and I think we have to devise a positive role for radio and television in terms of feeding information to pull up the recipients of this information. I do not see any difficulty if the thing were properly financed for a unit from CBC to meet with officers of the Ministry of Agriculture or successful planters like Mr. David Kinch, for example, and put on a programme showing people how to plant beans, carrots, tomatoes or whatever, when to plant and so on. These are the kinds of activities that a television and radio station in a third world country can get into.

I have seen and this is why I am critical of the assessment of the Ministry as posited by the Hon. Senator. I have seen a programme, I think it was last year or possibly the year before about knowing your law. I did not always agree with the judgments of the panel and they came from academia, most of them, but at least simple everyday questions were put to a panel who answered them and a whole lot of useful information was disseminated to the public at large. This was a useful role that the Government Information Service — I think

it was a Government Information Service Project — that the Government Information Service was playing.

I am not going to dwell too much on one aspect of this Resolution, Item 13, but it seems to me that even though we have problems within the media in Barbados we still have to lend encouragement to managers and members of the media to ensure that as far as possible the media are able to develop and to do what we would have as objectives for the media operating in the Third World.

I am looking forward to the day, Sir, when once a week, for say, half an hour, there will be someone on radio and television who will interpret for the population what was discussed in the House of Assembly and the Senate in any given day.

I think that we have to educate our people and I do not understand why at Election time certain politicians in Barbados try to cast a blind over the electorate by deliberately misrepresenting the facts and seeking to keep the people of Barbados in a state of political ignorance. I would have thought it was the aim of every politician to up-lift the electorate by the dissemination of his policies but when you have a politician telling the people on the Tuesday before the General Election in Church Village that the Tenancies Legislation is a load of rubbish because when you die, the plantations will get back the land, that politician has done the people of Barbados a grave disservice.

Now, the Ministry of Information, for which we are asked to concur in these various things today, in that situation, if the Government Information Service had had a few teach-ins on television as to what was involved in the Tenancies Legislation, perhaps instead of receiving applause for having misled those who did not know any better, that politician would have been the recipient of "boos" and so I say that the Ministry of Information has a very critical and positive role to play and I am going to support this Resolution in any event, Sir.

One of the strictures levelled against the Resolution by Senator Greaves was that this Resolution was brought before this Chamber without any care and thought. He said that enough care and thought had not gone into the exercise but, again, I searched, but in vain, to find the specific areas that would support his contention that this Resolution has not been the subject of enough care and thought and so I dismiss it and wish to assume to the contrary, Sir.

I wish to assume, having had some discussions myself with the Ministry of Establishments months ago, and in the knowledge that this exercise was covered, I wish to assume, and I hope Senator Trotman when he

risers to reply will let the Chamber know perhaps the length of deliberations and how much care and thought went into it, but I wish to assume that there has been care and thought of requisite quality that has gone into this Resolution.

It seems on its face to be a very comprehensive Resolution. I think the upgradings in respect of the Commissioner of Inland Revenue and the Deputy Comptroller of Customs, the Chief Labour Officer and so on reflect, and this is the only area in which I would agree with Senator Greaves, that where there are persons who are charged as Heads of Departments with Revenue functions or receiving revenues on behalf of Government departments, I think we must make sure that they are adequately compensated for the heavy burden that is cast upon them by reason of holding a post which is involved in the running of an office.

Over the last few years in the mass of legislation that has come down, additional and onerous responsibilities have been placed on the Commissioner of Inland Revenue and the Comptroller of Customs. He has the whole administration of the Betting and Gaming Duties Act of 1977 to look after and in addition to the Comptroller of Customs, there is the Registrar of the Supreme Court. Any administrative piece of legislation that has come down where people have to file things in the Registry and so on, the responsibility is charged on the Registrar.

Under the property legislation, under the Condominium legislation, it did not come in our time but it came before, all of those things are cast upon the Registrar but, of course, it is not the Registrar himself who has to bear the total day-to-day responsibilities. He will delegate to people and I think some attempt has been made already to create within the Registration Department subsidiary posts. Assistant Registrars, I think, they will be called. I know persons who are already holding positions of Assistant Registrar or Deputy Registrar who are not qualified lawyers and this is a good sign. Let me just take the Registry as an example.

When you have people like, I do not think I can call the names of public servants, Sir, without giving you notice, but there are persons who do not even have para legal training. There are persons who are currently working in the Registry who have been there for donkeys' years, but they hold the position today of I think Assistant Registrar or Deputy Registrar. (ASIDES) What are they Assistant Registrar? I am grateful to Honourable Senator Trotman. Now, there is something of great significance in that because of course it is a reclassification and a regrading and that has been done before this exercise, but it shows that this Government has been conscious of the need to build a career path within various departments of the Civil Service to allow for up-

ward mobility within the department itself. I think this is a commendable effort on Government's part. If this is going to be thought through and implemented in relation to other departments or the Civil Service as a whole, then, I think we are on the right track. It will still come, Sir, even though it may be in the process of development now, perhaps it is being done on an ad hoc basis and you need a mechanism like a committee or a commission to look at the whole thing and investigate it and then create the various structures which will allow for mobility within the Civil Service.

With those comments, Mr. President, I wish to conclude my contribution to this debate and state that I will be supporting the resolution. Obligated to you, Sir.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Barrow.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. President, at the beginning of this afternoon, I felt it would not be necessary for me to make any comment whatever in the debate on this resolution, but that illusion was soon dispelled because in no time at all I found myself listening to the application of a technique which is usually applied within the Democratic Labour Party by one member to another such as a time when Dr. Caddle referred to Dr. Haynes as the second most important man in Barbados. We are now seeing today members of that Party becoming more venturesome. They seek to apply the technique now to persons who are not members of their Party. For the first time, therefore, Sir, we are seeing public criticism and the casting of whatever they wish to cast which they normally cast among themselves outside the league and over the wall over the other side.

Sir, Dr. Haynes, at the time when the accusation was made probably felt very good about it because he probably knew the truth of the accusation anyhow. In this particular case, I believe that Senator Greaves, had he been a little more educated as to what goes on in Government, would not have found it necessary to apply this old and, in fact, quite ineffective technique. The fact is, Sir, that, if we look at this Civil Establishments Order, we will find that a number of things have been attempted and even if we look beyond the Civil Establishment Order to the number of things which, according to the Senator, I have managed to get within my grasp. There are compelling reasons for these things. We prefer, Sir, to operate within a logical framework rather than operate as some institutions operate whether they are operating on Roebuck Street or in some part of St. Philip.

I am going to explain for the benefit, Sir, of the Honourable Member what is behind this aspect of the Proposals dealing with Information. You see, Sir, persons who understand modern Government will tell you that

one of the fastest growing areas, of modern Government is the field of information. Information is but an aspect of communication and what has been done now is that the whole area of the administration of communications has been rationalised by removing the technical aspect, for example, of broadcasting from one Ministry, Ministry of Works and bring them into the Ministry dealing with the programming aspects of broadcasting. You will also find, Sir, that the postal aspects of Communications, as well as, telecommunications are all brought together within the same framework because it is recognised that with the rapid advance in modern technology, it is absolutely essential that these all be seen for what they are, certain aspects of the communications system. It appears, Sir, that the Senator does not even know that the Post Office is part of a Ministry. I think, Sir, before we begin to inform others, we have to start informing ourselves. More than that, the *raison d'être* of the whole arrangement is that the essential agencies of any system of public information and public education are the essential agencies for the administration of cultural affairs, your libraries, your museums, your archives and this is why not only in Barbados, but in other parts of the Caribbean as well we will find that there exist no Ministries of Information and Culture.

Sir, I know that what I have just said, it was not necessary for me to say for the other nineteen Members of the Senate not counting myself and Senator Greaves, but since I have said that I expect that we should not hear an Honourable Senator who is the Principal of an educational institution so-called. His use of the term propaganda does not permit me to say with any confidence that it is an educational institution and indeed, if I look at the kinds of people that the Senator tends to attract around him, the Cuban Agents and the other Marxists, it makes me wonder whether it can be anything other than a propaganda institution. Therefore, Sir, I am saying that if he, Senator Greaves, the Principal of a so-called educational institution can say that the business of the Ministry of Information is not vital to this country that if the Ministry disappears tomorrow.....

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. President, on a point of order. I think that the Honourable Senator has accused me of attracting, I think he said Cuban Agents around me, referring to me, that I attract Cuban Agents around me. I think that that remark is uncalled for and ought to be withdrawn.

Mr. PRESIDENT: It was not my understanding that the remark was made personally to you, but the Honourable Minister could explain what he was saying?

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Even though I did not say it, I will withdraw it. The fact of the matter, Sir, is that if I proceeded like the Senator to

describe people, "the second most important man" and I were to regard him as the second most important man in the Barbados Workers' Union, I would perhaps then be saying that he attracted these people around him, but I do not think he is the second most important man in the Barbados Workers' Union I do not think so, I honestly do not think so and therefore, Sir, I do not think that the Francis Belles and George Belles and so on, I do not think they are attracted around Senator Greaves personally, Sir, I do not think so at all. I really do not think so, but they are attracted to the Barbados Workers' Union because the Union is a mark to be targetted for the nefarious purposes of that aspect of political ambition and political administration. The Marxists have targetted the Union and the Marxists seem to be getting along very fine, they are positioning people very well and the more those people are positioned, the more it will be obvious that Senator Greaves is not the second most important man in the Union.

But, what I want to refer to, Sir, is that the Senator who is supposed to be the Principal of an educational institution will regard as not vital and as something that could disappear and not be missed, an agency, the principal parts of which are libraries and museums and archives. It is very clear, Sir, that the people of the northern parish of St. Lucy do not share the same darkness that must have informed the comment of the Senator when he made his comment. It is very clear to me. Indeed, on June 18, they disassociated themselves, one would hope forever, from the backward looking forces represented by the point of view expressed by Senator Greaves.

I am trying indeed, Sir, not to develop very fully a couple of points which I believe I should, because there is time, but just let me correct one statement because it may not be the only one I should have corrected, but as time has passed since the Senator sat down it has occurred to me that that statement might get reported in the form in which Senator Greaves made it and that a number of persons could therefore be misled.

According to him, the Prime Minister said that the Post Office would be completed in 1982, but according to other sources it cannot be completed before 1983. This is an important statement because a Mr. Branford Taitt, Sir, I think who is the same person who is the member for St. Michael West in the Other Place, I remember in the course of a television broadcast rejected all official statements and all official statistics and chose to use other sources. What Senator Greaves is therefore doing is true to a particular tradition, if not a noble tradition. I think the Senator is referring to a particular statement relating to the Post Office, but the present plight of the Post Office is not something to joke about, because you have people administering a 104 week contract, who at 99 weeks were by the advice of the

project officer 44 to 46 weeks behind, and by their own admission, their own officer stated this, they were 56 to 57 weeks behind. Since I was present on the occasion, and since I had other reasons to know exactly what the situation was, I believe it is only fair that I put the score right, because it is not the Prime Minister's figures, and I do not even think the figure of 1983 is Senator Greaves' figure, although it may be wrong. But what has happened with the Post Office is a very important matter for us, because when Governments are going to carry out policies they have to have a properly organised Civil Service structure if their policies are going to be implemented, and among the policies which this Government has embarked upon is involved the training and development of a work force of great skill. We want to have a large and skilled work force in this country, and we also need to produce the local management for all resources, whether human resources or other resources, and we need, therefore, to look at what is happening by a foreign company operating so inefficiently within the building industry in Barbados.

I am making the point of the foreign company operating inefficiently although I am not at the same time trying to prejudge any litigation that might arise. In fact no litigation might well arise, but we need to understand why it is that we have to train our people to do the things that our own society demands. We cannot, in 1981, regardless of what they might say on the other side, continue with the policies of the past, the policies of the Democratic Labour Party regime in which they failed to embark on any meaningful programmes of training for the people, particularly the young people of this country, programmes, Mr. President, that resulted in a real crisis in the sugar industry without the assistance of the weather. Senator Greaves will come in here and tell us, as he tried to tell us this afternoon, that there is economic crisis because of \$43 million. Why doesn't he take a more responsible position and ensure that before the time target for the start of the crop they can bring negotiations for the sugar industry to a successful conclusion so that we will not be plagued, even if we have bad weather again, by the delays which were also part of the recipe for the catastrophe that happened in the sugar industry this year. If the Senator would start his negotiations early enough, and if perhaps trade unionists spent more time at home than abroad, they might be able to start their negotiations and get them to a successful conclusion to ensure that no damage comes to this economy as a result of having to start reaping the sugar crops too late.

These are things which I believe we will have to start talking about very straight and very plain. There is no point pussy-footing and believing that everybody who operates out of Unity House or out of Mangrove or out of Fairchild Street is operating with the best interests of this society at heart. We have to understand that within

the ranks of the union there are some people who take comfort in economic difficulty in this country, because that is the communist pre-requisite for a take over, and if the present leadership of the Union is so ill-advised as to allow these people to get the upper hand, it is going to be grief for all of us in this country.

Mr. President, Senator Simmons referred to a few things which, in his view, the public relations department of the Government should be doing. The reason for re-organising the public relations department and getting increased staffing is precisely that the publicity, the public information which ought to be disseminated from each agency of Government, we now have the facilities to disseminate that information, so that I welcome indeed the words of Senator Simmons because it indicates quite clearly that it is possible to spend time in the Other Place and when you reach the Senate still to recognise what Government is all about. We had a previous contribution in which it was not clear from that contribution that debate in the Other Place is necessarily based on any appreciation of the business of Government.

There was one other aspect which I could not possibly sit down without referring to. If I listened to Senator Greaves carefully I would be accepting and indeed I think he said, that the regradings represent some sort of a device for improving the position of people at the senior levels of the Public Service. If I listened to him carefully, the regradings, however, do not represent a good enough attempt for dealing with the case for upgrading senior posts in the Public Service. On the one hand, he is rejecting the notion that you have to remunerate persons holding senior positions at a particular level, on the other hand that the Commissioner of Inland Revenue and the Comptroller of Customs ought to be even better remunerated.

What is the hon. member talking about? Aren't they senior members of the public service? He is rejecting the notion of remunerating senior members of the public service at a certain level, yet he is talking about being glad that there is a different approach to the lawyers. What are they? What is the Solicitor General who has just gone to "A"? What is the Chief Parliamentary Counsel who has just gone to "A"? I believe, Sir, it is time for people not to come in here thinking there is a wage negotiation and they can talk now and go home and think after and come back and perhaps use numbers to wring a good settlement out of somebody. This is not the business in here. I think before you open your mouth it is necessary to know what you are talking about. The Comptroller of Customs has been promoted to Grade B in the public service. What is Grade B? Grade B is the level at which Permanent Secretaries who are at the top of the managers in the public service are placed. The Commissioner of Inland Revenue has been promoted to Grade B in the public service, the same as a Permanent

Secretary, and the Permanent Secretaries are the people who, within the Ministries, have to be able to understand and interpret the policies and ensure that the Ministerial policies are executed; hence they have to be paid at the top of the service. A Permanent Secretary only after a certain period of time may proceed from Grade B to Grade A. Am I understanding that the hon. member wishes to make the point that because it is a revenue department the Head of that department should be paid at a level higher than those persons who have to advise Ministers in the planning and execution of policies and who have to execute the policies which those very departments then have to carry out to the satisfaction of the Ministries concerned. It is obvious that if the departments are accountable to the Ministry in the ordinary scheme of things, the person who is the senior manager in the Ministry must be recognised as the senior person who is the senior manager of the department. I would believe that there is no difficulty in understanding that point. All these persons have been pushed to what is normally the highest level in the public service, because the Government recognises that they have to be properly rewarded because of the responsibilities which they are exercising. Yet one heard from Senator Greaves that that is not good enough.

Sir, the Government would like to do better, but the Government cannot afford to pay them as much as the General Secretary of the Barbados Workers' Union, otherwise it would. There was still one other point, and it is this, because I understood Senator Greaves, while not producing any evidence as Senator Simmons has pointed out, while not particularising but making a number of sweeping statements, to be again talking about discontent within the public service as a result of these regradings. Do you know, Sir, some of the beneficiaries of these regradings? Who are the main beneficiaries? Not like the Commissioner of Inland Revenue even, that I just referred to, but Librarians who were paid on a salary scale Z 14 - 8 and who have now been put on a salary scale Z 9 - 3. At the bottom they have been moved from around \$1,300 a month to approximately \$1,600 a month. That is what I am talking about because it was found that they were paid out of line with other people who had to go through roughly the same kind of training exercise as they have had to go through. They are among the main beneficiaries.

Among the main beneficiaries we will find air traffic controllers, met. assistants. When he was talking about nurses, Sir, he was not serious. These are the people who have been the beneficiaries under this Order. The entire exercise, when seen together, will also show that drivers of heavy duty equipment are among the principal beneficiaries of this whole regrading exercise, far from the case which Senator Greaves has sought to make, and I respectfully submit that all Senator Greaves needed to do, because

I am sure he did not come in here to mislead this Honourable Chamber, was to have read the papers that were sent to him, and they were sent to him a long time ago. When the Order was laid in July I think he got a copy the same time, or maybe he had them mixed up with his House papers, Sir.

Mr. President, the final point refers to the argument that this exercise was hurriedly done. I was trying to find out what is meant by hurriedly done, because we undertook to do this exercise at the conclusion of the last wage negotiations affecting public workers, and it was only when I looked up beyond and over into the Gallery that I understood what was meant by hurriedly done, because then I remembered that within the administration to which Senator Greaves belonged, not as an officer but as a foot soldier, but still belonged, if they did not want to give you a job, they used to say that they were regrading the post. It was done to prevent a gentleman called Pedro Welch from being appointed Chief Welfare Officer some years back, and it was done equally unsuccessfully this time to prevent a gentleman called Mr. Laddie Deane from being appointed Comptroller of Customs. For years these posts were kept back because, according to the then Prime Minister, they were to be regraded, therefore any time we have come to Parliament with Civil Establishment Orders which reflect regradings, we have come too hurriedly. That is the only context in which I can understand the term "hurriedly". If it were possible to involve the Gallery, I know you could get ample evidence as to the truth of what I have just said.

Senator W. W. HALL rose.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Do you propose to speak at length?

SENATOR W. W. HALL: I do not do very much at length, Sir.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I would not wish to break into your speech, and if that is so, this would be a convenient time to have a short break. I would rather not break up your argument.

SENATOR W. W. HALL: I do not think there will be much breaking up in this thing.

Mr. PRESIDENT: On the understanding that you do not wish to proceed too long, I will allow you to begin your speech.

SENATOR W. W. HALL: Thank you very much, Mr. President.

Sir, after the erudite manner in which the speakers have expounded on this very important Resolution this

evening and after listening to the speech by the Leader of the House which was punctuated by gross vilification and character assassination, I for one moment thought that I was in the Other Place, but then, Sir, Senator Barrow has never been there. (Asides) I would never say that; but I felt that having listened to the viciousness of his attack, I can only conclude that.....

SENATOR D. SIMMONS: On a point of order. I ask that the hon. Senator withdraw the word "viciousness". I think he has to speak parliamentary language and the word "viciousness" connotes something that is wicked.

SENATOR W. W. HALL: I can withdraw that, Sir. I do not wish to be long nor do I wish to be wrong and since I do not wish to be wrong, Sir, I will withdraw the word.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I would be much happier for myself and the Senators if we keep the debate a little more temperate than it has tended to be.

SENATOR W. W. HALL: No, Sir. I am pretty cool. I can assure you. That is not with me, Sir. I can assure you.

Mr. PRESIDENT: No, no. I am not blaming you.

SENATOR W. W. HALL: I am so grateful, Sir. I would like to speak in a different vein this evening, albeit short. I would like, since the Civil Establishment Act covers the entire Civil Service, to refer to the various departments as they relate to its economic and public affairs. Sir, I first would like to say a few words about Tourism, under Head 17.....

Mr. PRESIDENT: Are you dealing with the same Resolution? That is the next Item.

SENATOR W. W. HALL: Under Section 4, Sir, under the Police Department, if you will allow me to, Sir, as it relates to crime in this country. Sir, I believe that anyone with a modicum of commonsense will.....

Mr. PRESIDENT: Just a minute. You referred to a Resolution and I think there was some attempt to say that it does not appear on this but I think on page 2 under (ii), about the middle of the page there is a reference (c), Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism.

SENATOR W. W. HALL: Yes, Sir. I am so grateful for your help, Sir. I will seek to tie it in with the Police later on, so that if I do not refer to it I hope that it will meet with your approval.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Proceed.

SENATOR W. W. HALL: Yes, Sir. I alluded to the fact that anyone with a modicum of commonsense in this country will accept that the tourist industry is vital to our economy. It is, indeed, the second largest industry in Barbados. That is debatable but I have said it is the second largest in my opinion, and I believe, Sir, that we used to boast that Barbados is twenty-one miles long and a smile broad and I think that only last week Mr. Cave in his inimitable style said that it is indeed twenty-one miles long but the smile is no longer there.

I would think that the public relations effort in the Board of Tourism, even though they have tried very hard, I believe that they would probably get five out of ten. This is because the content is quite good but I believe that they have directed their message to the wrong people. We believe on this side, Sir, that if you write about tourism on the second page of the Advocate, it will not reach the young people of this country.

We also feel that it should be directed on programmes so that the young people will listen. All of that I say because I know the young people read the first page and the Sports page and sometimes the comics, and if the young people are listening to rock music, well then the Public Relations Department will have to make the mountain go to Mohammed if Mohammed cannot get to the mountain. It is my humble opinion, and I feel that if we cannot understand the seriousness of this matter, that is, the drop in our earnings as far as tourism is concerned, that in our pursuit of excellence we can certainly not tolerate any mediocrity.

I certainly feel that there is an erroneous view in Barbados that all tourists are wealthy. This is quite erroneous. As a matter of fact, I very well remember about ten years ago when I first went to England, the charlady at the house where I lived was telling the owner that she was going to Spain for her holidays. As a young Barbadian in 1961, this seemed rather strange to me and I think that although twenty years have passed and the names and places have changed, you can be well assured, that the game is still the same.

There are many people arriving in Barbados on package tours. They are the type of people, Sir, who no longer drive in taxis to get to their destination. They will take any available transportation. They will even try to get a lift if they can. They do not go into the restaurants and into the places where they sell liquor to buy their drinks. They will go down the road like anyone else and buy a gallon of rum and a case of cokes. Such is the measure of those peoples' monetary existence.

Sir, I believe that, because this is so, Barbados is now getting a very bad name overseas, because people believe somehow what they read and, as far afield as

Miami, a few weeks ago, in the *Miami Times*, it was stated that Barbados is pricing itself out of the market. No less a magazine than the prestigious *Time Magazine* also alluded to that fact, Sir, that Barbados is pricing itself out of the market.

My own view, having given the matter a lot of thought, indeed having conceptualized it is that, I believe that it is not really a matter of those in the higher echelons making a great mistake.

I believe that the entire country must be educated. I say so, Sir, because I feel that when we say that Barbados is a smile wide, the implication there, Sir, is that we are a friendly people, that we like to see visitors to our shores and if these people having come to Barbados are going to be choked and robbed, and molested on the street and if there is any serious trouble you will find that travel agents throughout the world will shy away from Barbados. Indeed, Sir, it is a fact that the German travel agents have threatened to blacklist Barbados and to put in their literature that Barbados is a high risk destination.

So, you see, Sir, if this type of, shall I say, propaganda, or, shall I say, adverse publicity is meted out to Barbados, it will not be too far in the future when we would find that those much needed tourist dollars will evaporate into thin air. I say so at a very important time in the history of our country. We are told that we must put on our seat belts for the take off and we feel that at this important time in our development some serious measures must be brought to bear on tourism in this country, if not we will find ourselves in dire trouble.

Sir, there are many other places that people can go to as a matter of fact, there are people who have visited here 10 and 12 times and are now complaining about the extra fuel charge, they are complaining that they can no longer walk the streets of Barbados in comfort and these people, Sir, will find greener pastures in Miami, in Hawaii in the Bahamas, in Bermuda, in the Mediterranean and wherever you have these excursion places. Sir, I say this because I believe that as a proud Barbadian we cannot afford to let our reputation slip suddenly downstream. I believe, Sir, that we have got to make sure that when people come here they are well looked after and they will return. Only last week.....

Mr. PRESIDENT: Just a minute. I know what you are saying is very important and very interesting Senator Hall. I would like to see you tie it in a bit more with the.....

SENATOR W. W. HALL: With crime, Sir.

Mr. PRESIDENT: With what?

SENATOR W. W. HALL: Sir, I am alluding to crime and the Police, Sir. I would have thought,

Sir....(ASIDES).....being short of a good length and still a good ball, Sir, as you would know, even if Senator Simmons does not know, I can easily pull it in with the Police, Sir. In fact, Sir, I was just about to mention that only last week a Mr. Amor came here to investigate crime committed against British citizens when they come here, Sir, as tourists. And even Mr. Amor, a Specialist, was robbed in Barbados. Sir, I am alluding to crime, I am not joking and I feel that — (ASIDES) I will get to that Sir, I am only saying that when we get to such a stage that people who come to report on us are themselves robbed, it is a great calamity. That is what I am saying, Sir. I believe all of this is being reported daily in the British Press.

Only last week, as a matter of fact, Sir, a young girl seemingly day dreaming while sun bathing and thinking that Barbados is what is more or less advertised, peaceful, loving, this other Eden, this Paradise, felt that she could go unaided to the beach and day dream about the sun, the sand, the surf and all these kinds of things, Sir, only to be molested and I am sure that that experience will do her and no one else that she cares to tell about Barbados, I am sure, Sir, that it will do none of them any good.

The crime situation as it relates to tourism, Sir, is as such that last week about 300 Trade Unionists who were supposed to visit here cancelled their trip because they could not justify it to their members. (ASIDES) Pardon me. Sir, I tend to get the impression that unless it is an aside, that it is you who are intervening, but once it was not you, Sir, I need not worry about them. I would like to think, Sir, that we have to look at the treatment also that is meted out to some Barbadians on the hotel circuit. By this, I mean people who frequent the hotels. I say this because some of them have been around the areas for a long time, they were born there, they are going to live there and no doubt will die there. When, they are molested or when they are kicked out even when they attempt to get a drink, I am saying that they heartily reciprocate and this type of thing does not in any way help in the crime situation because the tourists are frightened away and then Barbados, I am sure will appreciate, Sir, will definitely lose some much-needed dollars.

I would like to say, Sir, that, as far as the Police are concerned, we on this side would like to say that we..... (ASIDES).....well, on the Democratic Labour Party then would like to say that the 87 new jobs that have been given we hope will go a long way towards strengthening the entire Force. We know, from the newspaper reports that the Force will be strengthened to the tune of about 1,000 policemen and, like Senator Simmons, we on this side hope that this will go a long way towards improving Sir, the efficiency of the Police Force. It is no secret, whatsoever, Sir, no secret at all that the morale of the Police Force is at a low ebb, it must be because when policemen carry out their duty and responsible Ministers say they are foolish and myopic, my

understanding of myopic means short sighted so I can only hope to think that the word myopic means that they are not seeing the situation with any degree of clarity. When they are castigated publicly and then the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister congratulates them in the same issue, we can only feel that people in the higher echelons of society are not necessarily seeing eye to eye on very fundamental issues. (ASIDES) Sir, I am not easily frightened. Like some of the Senators it is true that I have not been in a position to address this Honourable Chamber for a long time, but if they feel that by their asides they will frighten, I nearly said "I", I am assuring them, Sir, that as long as you permit, I will speak on this issue. They have many long evenings that they can also make their contributions. I am saying, Sir, that crime is at a very destructive level in this society and the policemen of this country must be encouraged from the top to the bottom to combat crime, they must also combat drug trafficking. Sir, it is a curious paradox that while the people who traffic in drugs get off scot free, we tend to pounce on the few who smoke marijuana.

That is a fact, Sir, and I would like to see a concerted effort made where the bigger fish would be caught and those chickens would come home to roost. Sir, I am merely saying that we feel that, if the police are allowed to carry out the work that they are paid to do, you will probably find that they will be in a position, or in a better position, to make sure that this lovely land of ours is a better place to live in. This is not as some people think, from the jocular way they seem to behave in these places, this is not at all a nebulous issue, this is very serious. I think it is the lifeline of our community. I think that if crime and drug abuse are not abated in this society we will see the type of hooliganism which will definitely bring an end to the Barbados that we know so well and are all very proud to be citizens of, and I think that this is very true. So while others seem to take it very lightly I can assure you, Sir, that there are many people in Barbados who will tell you that this is a fundamental issue in this country at this moment, so I need not worry about the remarks I am hearing.

In the Other Place no less a person than the former Attorney General when he was asked what was the crime rate in Barbados said that it was no worse in 1975. That was an odious comparison, I may say, Sir, but it does not actually look at this situation as seriously as I personally would like to see it, and I believe that the powers that be, most of whom are in here will definitely take warning and will take what we have to say on this side as it is given, in good faith, and not to feel that as soon as you happen to bowl a bouncer that it means sudden death to the one who has bowled it, as I see the implications today.

I see, Sir, that this is going to be a very interesting place in the next four or five years. Sir, I would just like to turn now to agriculture. The Hon. Senator Trotman alluded to the fact that the Press, whenever there are layoffs, tend to make a big play about it. Of course they do, and the Hon. Senator knows very well why they do, because when people are laid off there are very serious ramifications arising out of those layoffs. Some of those people are perhaps the only bread-winners in the family and therefore it must affect them adversely, so you see, Sir, although he may believe that there are some — I hope I can say sinister motives — I believe, Sir, that in some cases layoffs are very serious things because they do place added burdens on the people who have gone home.

Sir, since he mentioned it, I would like to say that in talking of agriculture we have to realise that it is the backbone of our economy, but I believe that there is need for a major thrust. It is obvious that we must produce more, and having produced that much we must market it properly. Marketing is the key, Sir. We have to market our produce so that it is beneficial to the small farmers in this society. If we do this we will go a long way towards feeding our own nation. This is a fact, Sir.

While he alluded to layoffs, I would like to say that there are grave consequences arising out of the layoffs at the BMC, and I am speaking specifically about the abattoir. Sir, the ramifications that I talked about before are very serious in this respect, because you see, Sir, at the abattoir there are slaughterers and butchers, and even to elucidate a little bit, Hon. Senators might not even know that slaughterers are people who basically kill animals and butchers are people who are supposed to sell them. For a very long time the slaughterers at the abattoir have been laid off and what this has occasioned in this country is this, that in Four Roads, Six Roads, St. Philip, St. John, St. Peter, where have you, there are people who are not particularly qualified or have the necessary certificates to kill animals, and this is a serious thing, Sir, because any experienced slaughterer will tell you that you may have an animal seemingly in great health, very robust, and when it is killed you will find that it could be riddled with intestinal cancer, and if someone does not have the necessary qualifications or certification to carry out these albeit simple tasks to the educated, you will probably find that all sorts of contaminated meat may be prevalent in this country. I say this just to say that layoffs can at times not only bring hardship to those who are concerned directly, but in fact in this case, they could lead to a health hazard.

Sir, I am not going to take you any longer, but I believe that if we can feed ourselves and we can become the food basin of the Caribbean, I think that it would go a long way towards this country saving some very important foreign exchange, and I believe that it can also

protect our balance of payments. It is very easy. I do believe, Sir, it can help provide the very vital things this country needs. If we do that we could actually provide food for the tourist market and this would obviously lessen our import bill.

I think, Sir, that, all in all, Hon. Senators would understand that these are important measures. I really and honestly believe this, and I believe as a proud Barbadian that we, like all Barbadians, must definitely look at this as a national issue. This is a fact. We must look at it as a national issue and we must all put the necessary inputs into this grave situation so that this country will forever boast of being 21 miles long and a smile broad. I believe, Sir, that this is very important, I also believe that sugar has been a political football of late. I seek not to continue kicking around an issue that is tired, I believe that in the sugar industry a lot of money is put in at the wrong end. We seek so much to be like the developed countries, we try to emulate the great powers, Australia with their big farms, and we try to get mechanical harvesting and the money is going in at that end.

I am not aware that we even have the engineers to look after these machines, but I believe, Sir, that we can look at it where some of that money can go at the other end and we should try to update some of the antiquated machinery and some of the factories that are older than you and I, because this is an age of great technological changes, men walk on the moon and things like that, and therefore we should find it fit to be able to upgrade our facilities in the factories so that the unfortunate incident that happened this year whereby you could not continue grinding simply because there was no bagasse to get steam to go on will never happen again in Barbados. These are areas as I said, Mr. President, that are very important, and I hope that the new factory that I have heard so much about will definitely put an end to the type of things that we saw or heard this summer where many factories had to halt grinding while hundreds and thousands of tons of cane were left in the fields and could not be ground.

Sir, I had promised that I would not be long and I will keep to my word because, as you said in the beginning, there will be many occasions when we in this Chamber will be able to expound on the issues of the day, and I am sincerely hoping that when we do so in the future, and I suppose this is just testing out someone that the type of abuse that is hurled across the Chamber will be at an end, and it is only here today because.....

SENATOR D. A. SIMMONS: On a point of order.....

Mr. PRESIDENT: I do not like to see two Senators standing at the same time. What is the point of order?

SENATOR D. A. SIMMONS: The point of order is that my friend has obliquely implied that the Chair.....

Mr. PRESIDENT: I was going to make that point myself.

SENATOR D. A. SIMMONS: So long as you are seized of the point.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I think you had promised earlier on, Senator Hall, to, in fact you had withdrawn certain remarks, and if you keep on that particular point, it implies that the Chair has allowed an abuse of the privileges of the House. I am sure you do not mean that and it is better to keep off that subject.

SENATOR W. W. HALL: No offence meant. I would assure you that I never really wanted to go down that street. I was just slightly hurt that in this Chamber for which I hold such great admiration and esteem, this could have happened. If this is the level that it has, I will have to be careful here again, but if this is the level to which it has degenerated, so be it, and I can assure you that I will live with it. I suppose I am older now and these things do affect one at this stage of our development.

I was just at the point of winding up and I would like to do so now by saying that no offence was meant and I simply was a bit surprised, to put it mildly, at the way in which the reply was made with particular reference to Senator Greaves. Thank you very much.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Mr. PRESIDENT: I think this would be an appropriate time to have a short suspension. This sitting will be suspended for twenty minutes.

On resumption:

Mr. PRESIDENT: This sitting is resumed.

SENATOR C. A. GRIFFITH: Mr. President, there is a canard in American politics which says that freshmen Senators must be seen and not heard. I intended at first to stick slavishly to that, but after hearing contributions from hon. members of the Opposition, particularly Senator Greaves, I find it necessary to breach that canard simply because I have gained a certain confidence in trying to deal with some of the matters at hand.

Now in this Resolution before this Honourable House, when the first speaker from the Opposition spoke, I did not hear him talk about the substantial increases in the number of jobs which were brought about by the present administration since 1976. I did not hear any talk about the benefits which were brought to the people of Barbados since 1976. I did not hear from the hon. Senator who apparently has the problem of wearing two hats when he talked about the need for increased productivity.

Indeed, Sir, when we talk about productivity within this Island of ours, it seems that that word is lost in the vocabulary of the directorate of the Union leadership of this country, and many a time when we hear about the cries by the Union leadership of the need for Barbadian workers to get a bigger share of the pie, there is indeed an absence in the cries for an effort to increase productivity, so that if the pie is bigger every last one of us will indeed get a bigger share of that pie.

What we heard this afternoon was a need for the Government to consult with the Unions on the reclassifications and regradings, but if we have anything to go by in the history of collaboration with the Union, since 1976 we have met with abysmal failures every time we sought to collaborate with the Union even in matters of negotiations, the Barbados Workers' Union particularly.

Now we know that in 1980 the workers in the Government Service of this country received at the lowest level an increase of 38%, an increase which was considered one of the highest in the history of this country. Yet we found that there was an encouragement by the Barbados Workers' Union for workers to go slow. In 1977 when the Barbados Labour Party was in its first months in office, we experienced a strike by the Barbados Workers' Union at the Transport Board, a strike which in effect met with abysmal failure. In 1980 and prior years there was a great campaign across this country about the need not to cut canes. Of course we know of the attitude towards cane cutting in this country and its relationship with the Democratic Labour Party leadership, and this campaign across this country encouraging workers not to cut canes was never at any time attacked by the Barbados Workers' Union leadership, yet we find that at the beginning of this year the same Barbados Workers' Union leadership was involved in a protracted battle with the Sugar Producers Association to get increased bonuses as a result of the profitable yields of the 1980 sugar crop. To me it is short-sighted for the leadership in the Barbados Workers' Union to condone encouragement in the destruction of the sugar industry, and it seems to me that in the face of encouragement not to cut canes so that we would be better off economically, we find the same Barbados Workers' Union first in line saying that the workers should benefit.

I wholeheartedly support that the workers should benefit. I do not support the kind of attitude taken by the leadership in the Barbados Workers' Union. I believe, Sir, that this attitude stems from a certain schizophrenia which stems from the fallacious belief that once one comes on the payroll of a Union, he is automatically endowed with the halo of being the sole spokes-person for the workers.

We have found that that has created serious problems for those people who have arrogated that kind of

authority to themselves. As Senator Barrow has said, experiences on June 18 have shown us in no uncertain terms how the workers in their clear thinking feel about those persons who wear two hats.

Unfortunately for the people who wear two hats, when the lashes start to come they can get lashes on both sides. We have not heard of the so-called political generosity of the Union itself when in the days preceding the June 18 General Election the Union sought to endorse three people.

SENATOR E. GREAVES: On a point of order, I respectfully submit that the Hon. Senator is not sticking to this Resolution.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I am waiting to see how the hon. member will carry on his argument. You will remember that you started this.

SENATOR C. A. GRIFFITH: Mr. President, there is a certain relationship because Senator Greaves in his exercise complained of the fact that the Unions were not consulted on this reclassification exercise and all I am merely trying to point out is that it is within the province of the Minister of Establishments to take care of this exercise of reclassification, cognisant of the fact that we have never had an experience of collaborating with the Union since 1976, and it would have been tantamount to self-destruction to bring in the Union leadership.

I want to make the distinction between the Union leadership and the workers and it would have been tantamount to self-destruction to ask the union leadership to come in on an exercise where it would be like bringing the mongoose among the chickens.

The point I was making is that we have seen that there is a certain political activity in the leadership of the Barbados Workers' Union particularly which could easily be considered more politically oriented and partisan politically oriented, than oriented towards the interest of the workers and we can go back only as recently as to the days preceding the General Elections when the Union, at the expense of the workers of this country, took a paid political endorsement to support three Union candidates who were in the elections. They took a paid political endorsement to support only two and the irony of it all, Sir, is that the one person they did not support is more actively involved as a unionist, having been elected and not appointed, yet, the Barbados Workers' Union did not see it fit to endorse that union member so there must be something strange about all of this.

My attitude is, Sir, that the comments made by Senator Greaves on the reclassification exercise are purely subjective and any problems that might have accrued

from his intervention stemmed from the fact that there may be some confusion as to which hat you should be wearing at any given time.

Now, there has been talk in some circles about the problems within the Civil Establishment in this country. My own colleague, Senator Simmons, has been on record as having called for some kind of examination on the re-organization and a rethinking of the structure of the Civil Service.

Management psychologists have always found that the bureaucracy is a monolith which cannot be easily dealt with and indeed many experts in the field of organizational behaviour have suggested that the one way to deal with bureaucracy is to scrap it. Now, since it is not very easy to scrap the bureaucracy and since we know, Sir, that the bureaucracy is, in the last resort, very important to the foundation of the country and if we want to, Sir, we can go back to the French Revolution where some historical analysts have argued that the French were saved because they had a very substantial and strong bureaucracy.

I do not want to agree, Sir, that there should be some scrapping of the bureaucracy. I do not believe that we can complain about the quality of the majority of people who work in our Civil Service. Some of them are highly trained. The majority of them are highly dedicated people who are committed to the progress and development of this country.

It is always very easy to start talking about attacking personnel and moving personnel whenever problems exist but I think what we should be looking at, Sir, are the rules which govern the activities of the Civil Service, some of the systems and procedures which attend work in the Civil Service because, Sir, I can attest to the problems as far as the rules and interpretations are concerned having served overseas for four years as a political head of the Government organization and I have found that some of the rules themselves are archaic. I think that it is a shame that in 1980/81, after having independence for 15 years, that we still have some rules in the Civil Service which are indeed rules which were made for a country that was colonized.

Now, when we talk about rules, people may believe that the way to govern a system is to keep implementing rules and making rules and making more rules but sometimes, as they say, less is better and if we want to be effective in the decision-making process, it may be better for us if we were to look at some of the rules that, as I said, affect our activities in the Government Service.

I can give a classic example from my own experience. Now, within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

there is a Vote called the Distressed Nationals Vote which means that if we have distressed nationals in a given country where Barbados has an overseas office, that national can come in and claim some kind of assistance on condition that on return to Barbados he will repay the Government any expenditure incurred in his repatriation and I have found that, because of the archaic rules that we have existing, sometimes it takes an inordinately long time for us to give assistance to distressed nationals.

I can cite one case where a distressed national spent three months trying to get assistance through the foreign ministry. Indeed, the irony of it all was that more money was spent on communication than it would have taken to repatriate the national. That, Sir, is the kind of rule that I think does not necessarily need to attend our activity in a Government Service and it becomes more important, Sir, if we are to operate in an overseas situation, where we are probably in a host country where decision making has to be on the spot and where any delay can be very costly.

Any young person who takes up a politically administrative position in the Government Service can be stymied if the Civil Servants decide that they want to employ a literal application of the rules. So, it is then very important, in our stage of development, that we take a serious look at some of the rules that govern the Civil Service and look at some of the systems and procedures which attend our operation. I will be very kind to Senator Greaves and say that I agree with him and his observation that in terms of the revenue generating area, there must be some serious attention to not only upgrading in terms of their recognition, but I am talking in terms of their training.

I believe, Sir, that, if we have people in the Customs and Inland Revenue Department, some effort should be made to train these people. I will give you a case in point. If, for instance, an Inland Revenue Inspector has to deal with a tax return from a corporation which is prepared by a Chartered Accountant, there are certain things on a Balance Sheet which no matter how much seniority you have, you may not be able to understand simply because there is a certain dynamism in the changes which affect their training and so on and I believe that it is important that we look at this area and try to institute serious training methods so that these areas which are important to the economy will be better served, not that they are not well served, now, Sir, but I believe that there is room for improvement.

Sir, I have one more point to make about this whole exercise and it is in the area again of overseas staff. Since 1966 when Barbados became independent, like many small countries in metropolitan areas, we have found that we depend to a large extent on expatriate

nationals to provide the support staff in these overseas offices. It is quite different from the larger developed countries which may employ expatriate nationals from other countries. But, we have a peculiar situation where the smaller countries and particularly the Caribbean countries employ as their support staff nationals who are living in the host country and what has happened since 1966 is that the attitude towards hiring has been based on the erroneous belief that these people are looking for jobs because they are fugitives from the Immigration Services in those countries and since that is the attitude, those people have been treated, as it were, like proverbial step children.

I believe, Sir, it is about time that we seriously look at trying to give recognition to those people who have made a significant contribution to the effective running of Government offices overseas. It is about time, Sir, that for instance we look to give them some type of recognition under the Civil Service establishments. There should be some criteria set up for bringing them under the umbrella of the Civil Service because these people are in effect in no man's land. They have made significant contributions, given long years of service and some of them still do not know where they are.

For instance, in New York city where everybody who works in New York city become members of a Social Security System, these people are not even part of any Social Security System and I believe that an effort should be made to bring them under the National Insurance System of Barbados as a first step, but there should be more done for these people, and I believe it is appropriate at this time to make a call to have this matter looked into so that these people can feel that they are part and parcel of Barbados.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Did you say you wanted to speak. Senator Linton.

SENATOR H. R. LINTON: Yes, Sir.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Linton.

SENATOR H. R. LINTON: Mr. President, during the last Session in the Honourable Senate, whenever I rose to speak, I would always begin by saying, "and I would be brief" and Honourable Senators either then breathed heavily or held their breath completely not knowing of course what the word "brief" meant in the context of my contributions.

This evening, I have risen to make what I regard as one substantial point, but I wish to preface my remarks, Mr. President, with the observation that it is amazing that a piece of legislation which has received the almost

unanimous approval of the people whom it affects, of the people whom it touches and concerns, has evoked much discussion in this Honourable Chamber this afternoon. That says a lot for the Honourable Senate of Barbados, but I do not think you will find that in any other country where something receives the unanimous or almost unanimous approval of the people for whom it is designed, then one seldom gets any discussion, particularly any controversial discussion relating to that matter and, as I listened to Senator Greaves, on the Other Side of the table, Mr. President, speaking of the necessity of having a Ministry of Information in this country, in the context of a modern developing country, I wondered whether he was speaking against the establishment of the Ministry of Information or whether he was indeed speaking for it because if a proposal such as this which has been agreed by the Civil Servants and their union still creates so much confusion in his mind, that amounts to a basic justification for the establishment of the Ministry of Information.

It is in my view, that Ministry that will have the job of correcting the misconceptions which Senator Greaves has displayed here this afternoon. I here will have to agree with my friend, Senator Simmons, that it is in certain areas, and I have no doubt he would include areas such as these where CBC both radio and television could play a very useful part by having a half hour programme and things like this, of course, telling the people it has already been agreed to by the people whom it touches and concerns.

Now, the point however, that I want to tackle concerns the issue raised by Senator Hall relating to the question of crime as it affects tourism. He spoke of that in the context of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism. I do not speak on it merely to be critical of the contribution made by Senator Hall, but, Mr. President, as the Deputy Chairman of the Parks and Beaches Commission I am fairly directly concerned with this question of crime rate among the tourists. Only today, the Parks and Beaches Commission concluded a seminar for its wardens and rangers to do with the whole question of the crime rate among the tourists. What concerns me though, Mr. President, is the fact that responsible persons in this society are constantly giving a very one-sided view very often unsupported by any evidence, any facts at all;

(a) of the crime rate;

and

(b) of the effort that Government is making to counteract any adverse effect which they suppose the alleged crime rate may be having on the tourist industry.

All of us live here, we will all cook in the same pot, we will all sail in the same ship, or we will all sink in it,

Mr. President. It does us no good, if responsible members of this society are going to allude to an increased crime rate, if they are not at the same time going to mention the effort Government is making to rectify the situation. The seminar I just referred to that was concluded today at Queen's Park for the rangers and wardens of the Parks and Beaches Commission is a good example of at least one effort Government is making to counteract this situation to which Senator Hall referred.

I would wish, Mr. President, that members of this society whether they have facts or not, once they begin to talk about this crime rate they also have to begin selling Barbados. It is no good saying that the tourists are going to stop coming because they are getting their pockets picked, or they cannot walk the beaches because some gentleman came down here to investigate the question of the crime rate among tourists. Where did he start, Mr. President? It is no good mentioning these things unless we balance them out so that the international public would be aware of the steps that the Barbados Government is taking. So that although I do not criticise the contribution made by Senator Hall in so far as the content is concerned, I merely criticise it for the blatant omission *vis a vis* the question of measures being taken by Government to rectify this situation.

Worse than that, Mr. President, is the fact that other people in the society are reading what they term an increase in the rate of crime among the tourists without seeking to analyse what they are saying. Do we actually have an increase in the rate of crime or do we have an increase in the number of crimes reported? We in the Parks and Beaches Commission are still trying to get all this evidence. We are not yet convinced, despite the problems of persons frequenting the beaches, commonly called beach bums, we are not convinced that there is any substantial, if any at all, increase in the rate of crime among tourists, and I, as a practising lawyer, am not convinced that there is any increase. Notwithstanding that, Mr. President, the fact that the strength of the Police Force has been increased by some 87 or thereabouts should go some way towards alleviating any problems that there may be. There is evidence that the police have started to deploy their extra staff which came about as a result of the Immigration Department being siphoned off and other areas of their responsibility being given to other Government departments. There is evidence that they have begun to re-deploy their men and rather than sending them now to little villages where there is little or no crime, I see strong evidence of greater and more frequent patrols on beaches by policemen. I welcome this, Mr. President, and I have no doubt that as soon as the increase which they are being given now is effected we will see an even greater improvement in terms of the number of policemen being deployed on the

beaches and in the built up areas where the tourists habitually go.

So that I do not think that the country needs to be alarmed about the supposed increase in the rate of crime among tourists. What we ought to do is to ask for the facts, what we ought to do is to examine the situation and see what steps Government is taking to help the position and try to balance our contributions on this area of our social activity. But it simply does not do this island any good for responsible persons to get up in here or outside on political platforms or in Belleville and simply state that the tourists are running away, without giving the full facts. That, Mr. President, is the point I wanted to make.

SENATOR A. W. A. McCLEAN: Mr. President, I would like to begin by making contact with a point raised by Senator Linton where he pointed out that most of the persons directly affected by this Resolution or by the proposed regrading of some members of the Establishments, where he indicated that these people were more or less unanimous in their agreement and he was wondering why there was so much debate on the matter. But I would like to point out that the regrading affects not only those who are to be regraded but the entire Civil Service. Indeed it modifies the relative status of people and we must look to those people who have not been regraded to see if there are any who have been more or less unfairly dealt with.

There is one category of employee in the Public Service that I would like to direct attention to, and this is the graduate teacher. I think the scale of the graduate teacher is Z. 14 - 3, if I remember correctly, and that has not been changed. It means therefore people like librarians whom one can compare with graduate teachers and administrative officers I and II whom people can compare with graduate teachers, the graduate teacher seems to be at somewhat a disadvantage *vis a vis* the librarians and the administrative officers. In the case of the librarians where the scale now goes from Z. 9-3 it means that someone who would probably have gone through the same amount of training as a graduate teacher, people of the same age, that whereas the graduate teacher will probably start at Z. 14, the librarian will start at Z. 9.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. President, if the Hon. Senator would permit, I rise on a point of elucidation. The fact is that if you went into the teaching service without the professional qualification and without a pass degree, you do enter at Z. 14. Honours will give you a couple of increments and the possession of the professional qualification will also give you a couple of increments, so that in fact you will be starting at Z. 10 or 9. The librarian, somebody who goes into the library with a degree goes in at Z. 15 and remains in the scale Z. 15 - 10 until both the period of

time has passed and the professional qualification has been obtained, before moving to Z. 9, so it is roughly the same.

SENATOR A. W. A. McCLEAN: Mr. President, I thank Senator Barrow for his clarification, but I would just like to point out that there are people who have professional qualifications and do not get any credit for them. I do not think you get credit for Erdiston type qualifications, teacher training qualifications, but I will have to follow up that because I know of some people who have not got credit.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: If the Senator would permit again, he is on to a problem which I have had some personal experience of, because some years back when I was teaching at Combermere the then Secretary/Treasurer had some problem working out these things from a conversion after a salary increase and I had picked up in that same exercise in helping out, that there were people on the staff who were entitled to increments because of the same Erdiston teacher's certificate and who were not getting them, and after that they got them. So it may be something to hold on to.

SENATOR A. W. A. McCLEAN: Thanks again. That might be one of those problems, but I know that there are people in that category and I will probably follow up to make sure that justice is done by them.

In relation to the Administrative Officer, the grade goes from Z 15 - 10 for the Administrative Officer II and then Z 9 - 1 for the Administrative Officer I. So I consider that in a career path for someone who, let us say, would correspond to someone entering the teaching profession and remaining as a teacher without being promoted to Deputy Headmaster, or Headmaster, the teacher finishes at Z. 3. So it seems to me that the Administrative Officer has a slight advantage vis-a-vis the teacher in terms of the normal career path.

Now the need to retain well qualified and competent teachers will forever remain a matter of some importance. As it stands now we know that most young teachers feel that teaching is basically a dead end and they start to look around at quite an early stage for opportunities elsewhere in the private sector and the public sector. Now it means therefore that, to the extent that there is this perception by teachers that being an Administrative Officer is better or being Librarian is better or whatever, at some stage we have to concern ourselves with whether or not we have scales appropriate within the teaching service to retain at least large numbers of able people within that service.

The second point I would like to touch on relates to the question of the point raised by Senator Simmons regarding permitting certain categories of officers, perhaps

Parliamentary Counsel and whatever, legally trained people in the service, perhaps to work outside the service and earn income which would supplement their income within the service. I do support such a proposal and I believe this should be general to all people with technical and professional skills, because basically Barbados is a community with a scarcity of technical and professional skills. I do not think it is right to tell a doctor, a lawyer and a management specialist or whatever that you are in the public service and we use your services to a certain extent, we know you have the time and energy to do more work, but you are not allowed to do it unless you are going to do it for free. It is not I think in the better interest of the community, not to mention the interest of the public service itself, because if you do that you will find that the people will be attracted away with better offers, and in the final analysis the public service will suffer; but if they abide by your rules and regulations and remain in your employ, you will probably find that the community will suffer, and indeed I am aware that in terms of the Parliamentary Counsel and so on employed by Government, they have certain areas of knowledge and expertise that the practitioners, the attorneys-at-law down town would like and, indeed, do avail themselves of. In certain research skills they have knowledge; they can research certain things with facility and can render that type of service to the attorneys down town. So that I believe that their proposal could be made part of a wider proposal regarding the need to identify areas in which people with professional and technical skills at a high level in the public service can be allowed to place those skills at the disposal of the wider community. I thank you.

SENATOR M. C. C. WARD: Mr. President, I would like to make a contribution here under the Head of the Police Department, the creation of the additional posts. It has served interesting prospects this evening that we were able to bring certain important matters into this meeting, and tourism in Barbados has been dwelt on quite a bit. Mr. President, I am sure that you are not surprised at this because this is a burning issue that is of deep concern to all right thinking persons, and I support Senator Hall completely on his contribution in regard to this matter. I am not happy about the contribution of Senator Linton in this matter, I have not been happy with the Parks and Beaches role in this matter of the beaches, and now I see where it comes from, because, as Deputy Chairman, when he talks about no right thinking person coming in here or anywhere else and saying that there has been an increase in crime, well he can regard me as not a right thinking person.

SENATOR H. R. LINTON: On a point of order, if Senator Ward is going to quote me, I think he should quote me accurately. I did not say that, Mr. President.

Mr. PRESIDENT: What is the point of order?

SENATOR H. R. LINTON: He said that I said that no right thinking person would come in here and say there is no increase in the rate of crime. He took what I said out of context. I did not say that. I said you would not say that unless you balanced it against the measures that Government is taking. That is the point I was making.

Mr. PRESIDENT: What the hon. member said was that you would have also to say what was being done to counteract that.

SENATOR M. C. C. WARD: Mr. President, Senator Linton is a lawyer and I presume that having said one wrong thing he says another thing and adds on to try and correct it. If you say that no right thinking person would say that there was an increase in crime unless he balances it, I do not understand that. There is no balancing act in this. The point remains, Mr. President, that the Government have acted as fast as you can say was possible in strengthening the police force, and they would not have done this if there had not been an increase of crime in Barbados. The Attorney General told me that he wanted more land at Hometown to add to the police facilities there to strengthen the police force in that area, being perhaps the area which is the greatest used for a tourist resort in Barbados.

Before I get to that, Mr. President, tourism in Barbados is nothing on which to create a division between the Democratic Labour Party, or the Barbados Labour Party, or the Barbados Workers' Union or any other organisation. This matter deeply concerns each and everyone of us. It is no use defending what cannot be defended. I have not heard the hon. member who belongs to the Barbados Workers' Union speak on it, but I know Mr. LeVere Richards who is on the Barbados Board of Tourism is deeply concerned about these matters. I do not know of any organisation that is not deeply concerned about these matters, so that we must look seriously at it, and I am very happy that the police force is being increased in number with a view primarily for the control of crime.

Mr. President, I would like to state this evening that the matters of deep concern in Barbados in regard to tourism are not just crime. There are three spheres that should cause us deep concern. There is crime, but we read of it every day in the papers. Only in today's Advocate we saw that a young woman was raped on Dover Beach night before last. So we always hear everything about crime. But there are two other spheres. There is hostility. You cannot write of hostility in the newspaper because everybody does not hear about it, but the tourists are being called names and insulted. Mr. President, what man, be he Barbadian or otherwise, likes to walk along with his wife or his fiancée for

somebody to be calling out to his fiancée telling her why she doesn't leave him and come to him and these kinds of remarks, calling him a white honky and these remarks. This is going on on the streets and beaches in this country at the present time. Now this does not reach the Press; crime reaches the press, but this hostility of abusing people as they walk the beaches and calling them names and what have you exists.

This is certainly hostile and while on this subject I would just like to draw to Senator Linton's attention that some of the beach vendors who have permits from these organizations to sell are the chief offenders in this respect. If their garments are criticised because of price or design, the tourists are severely lambasted so Senator Linton can consider when he goes to his next meeting what action should be taken in regard to possible revoking permits for people to sell on the beaches if they are proven to be hostile towards visitors.

So, as I said, Mr. President, there is crime, and there is hostility which does not reach the Press and the next thing is just plain discourtesy within the hospitality industry and this differs surprisingly in hotels themselves. There are some hotels you go to and the staff are exceedingly courteous to anybody who comes in there.

We have heard over and over again of black people visiting Barbados and being insulted at the hotels for somebody else because they think that there is a bigger tip. I believe that this has been corrected but I still believe that there may be other mistakes but there are these three realms: crime, hostility and discourtesy. It is for each and everyone of us as Barbadians to be deeply concerned in our future.

Mr. President, when tourism began in Barbados it was noticed by Government. It was just a matter of people coming to stay somewhere. Then Government became involved before we were independent because it was providing employment. That was the main thing and the Government then introduced the Hotel Aids Act and other Bills in Parliament.

Now, it has gone further. We have become independent and the responsibility for our balance of payments lies with us. Therefore, our Government, the Minister of Finance does not make a speech unless he makes mention of tourism because it is the biggest revenue earner of foreign currency. As you are aware, Mr. President, our dollar is not used internationally. We cannot take it to Japan to buy a car. If we take our Barbadian dollars to buy oil we cannot buy it so we have to earn foreign currency.

The three major currencies for international trade would be the American dollar, the pound sterling and the German mark but basically speaking, oil is sold in

American dollars and I think it is accepted as the international currency so we have to build reserves, so that the Government itself has a big stake in the future of tourism itself and I am very pleased to see that in this resolution here before the Senate that they refer to increasing the staff.

Mr. President, I feel within myself that it is less than 1% of the population of Barbados who are creating these problems for all of us. A few people who frequent these tourist areas cannot charge in Barbados. They cannot charge up bills on visits, so therefore when they come they have to bring money with them and therefore they become very vulnerable. Here they have to walk around with their wallets or the wife may wear jewellery or what have you so therefore the tourists become vulnerable and for this reason the Government is deeply interested in it.

Now this evening someone referred to the high rates and the article in the *Time Magazine*. In truth and in fact it was a wicked article because the person who came to Barbados picked out three hotels, the Hilton, Paradise Beach and Sandy Lane and formed an average which produced the very high rate as compared with other places. They did not take out the Island Inn. They did not take out many small hotels in the Sunset Crest area. They went to Sandy Lane. Now Sandy Lane is a luxury hotel. It is a fact. It is not the Tower. You can see in the Tower Hotel in the winter a couple can stay for \$50 US and you can go to the Paradise Beach Club and you will spend \$160 to \$180 EP without any food, so what I am saying is that it is unfair for any journalist to go to a country and take out three of the most expensive hotels to form an average for what a business man must pay.

In my opinion, I feel that the Barbados Board of Tourism should have been more active in correcting this but they just said that there was nothing that they could do. Well, there is nothing that they can do.

Mr. President, I am very pleased with this community consciousness of the hostility and crime and what have you against the tourists because I do not believe that Barbadians cannot solve any problems that confront them. This problem has come up and it has arisen within the last three or four years.

I would not have said what Senator Hall said, but now that he has made it public I will comment upon it. He was quite correct in saying that the Chairman of the Tour Operators has said that if crime in Barbados gets any worse he would have to list Barbados as a high risk crime area. They did this to Jamaica and killed Jamaica, but, of course, Germany has some very strange laws in regard to what they advertise and therefore if you put in your literature that Barbados is an ideal place to go to and you are wrong, or if the courts can

prove that you are wrongly advertising because it is a place where crime is very prevalent, then you can get yourself in very deep trouble before the courts.

I feel myself personally, Mr. President, that Barbadians have become aware of this and it is for this reason that I would like to say to Senator Linton particularly, Mr. President, do not try to sweep it under the carpet. This is a serious issue that we are aware of. The tourists are being insulted, it is common discourtesy.

Mr. President, I will give you a common example. You go into the court and you say "good morning" and you will get "hi" or "okay". What is wrong in saying good morning to you. It takes an effort. I do not know if it starts in the home or in the school, but it is just simply an education of giving a happy greeting to anybody you meet. If you go down the road or your maid comes or your gardener comes to work, you say "good morning" and you expect them to say "good morning" too.

Now the expression was also used about why one should keep on saying that we have crime in Barbados. Why not take the attitude of selling Barbados. This is what I believe Senator Linton said. He can correct me if I am wrong and I would be happy to be corrected, but he said, "why keep referring to crime in Barbados, why not try to sell Barbados."

Mr. President, the position is this. First of all, let me establish one point. As far as tourism is concerned, we have got as good a product as any part of the world. Barbados is an ideal tourist destination. It is very well geographically placed, just south of the United States and Canada and relatively near to Continental Europe instead of having to go to the East. If you want to go to Australia or any of the Far Eastern countries or any of the African countries, Barbados in the Caribbean is very well placed.

Added to that, we have got a magnificent climate and, basically, to a greater extent, we have very hospitable people. Barbadians by their very nature are inclined to be hospitable and kind to visitors to Barbados and we cannot allow a few people to destroy it but when we talk about selling Barbados, there is no country in the Caribbean barring none that has been more sold than Barbados. (ASIDES) That hon. Senator wants to speak again. Added to his half an hour which he could have compressed into a quarter and it would have made sense, he wants obviously to speak again, Mr. President.

MR. PRESIDENT: Why not leave him to me.

SENATOR M. WARD: I will do, Sir. I will do. But we are accustomed to dealing with one another in the Other Place.

As far as selling Barbados is concerned, let me say this, Mr. President that when the Barbados Board of Tourism was first formed coming over from the Publicity Committee, the Barbados Labour Party Government was in office, they sold it, the Democratic Labour Party came into office they sold Barbados, the Barbados Labour Party has again continued to sell Barbados. No matter how you sell a product if then there is a flaw in it that has come about as a result of this crime, this hostility, and this discourtesy, your selling has been completely wasted, it is down the drain. We have got to get to the crux of the matter, we have got a problem, let us face it, and I am glad to see, Mr. President, I know that the Government is deeply concerned about crime in Barbados and they are not going to be shying away from it and the gentleman who came here to Barbados must not be belittled.

If he is a tour operator of a travel agency and he is sending people to Barbados and every time they come back he gets a telephone call, "we were in Barbados and we were robbed", what better could he do than to come here? He is no expert in crime, he is simply a person who was sending people to Barbados. He got here and he was robbed and he made his feelings known that he thought that the Police did not act as promptly as they should. Mr. President, this is no joke, the policemen should take their side of responsibility, too. I feel that the police have gone through enough within the last three years that I will not venture any criticism because I think that their morale needs to be boosted, they need to be encouraged to keep on a good job, but the point remains that we have to realise that they are not increasing the Police Force just to give people work. They have to get out there and put enthusiasm into what they are doing, and show people they are dedicated, not coming and asking stupid questions when they come to the house.

Mr. President with those few remarks, I thank you for the opportunity of addressing the Senate.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Jones.

SENATOR THE REV. CAN. I. McK. JONES:
Thank you, Mr. President.

I must say that in my first Sitting in this Legislature, I am a little bit at a loss to know what we are really discussing because I am a bit confused about what is happening this evening. I understood that we were here to do the Civil Establishment (Amendment) Order, 1981 and I have heard so much talk on so many other things that I am not sure where we are, but the impression that was coming through to me is we seem to be talking as though we are not talking about the same island. That is the impression I am getting. I feel we are all Barbadians. Whatever affects Barbados affects all of us. I do not think we should be thinking this evening in terms of whether

we belong to one Party or another, whether we belong to one union or another union, I think we should be thinking that, as two Senators have already said, this is a national issue. If you think that it is a good thing to have a regrading of the Civil Service, well, I think that we should come together and say whether we think so or not. If there are certain aspects of it we do not agree with, we should stick to that.

But, it seems to me that in this twentieth century, society seems to be acting queerly and behaving in a funny way. I was reading something not so long ago by an American economist where he said that mankind is perennially dedicated to disrupt its community and he said that societies today could be called not really societies but are like aggregations of mass men. Then he proceeds to try to give some definition or some explanation of what he meant by a mass man. If I recall him correctly, he was saying that a mass man is a kind of a man who is absolutely loyal to a group or a party, to a group interest or a party interest and exists only for its furtherance. The mass man is a kind of man who has no conscience of his own, but is only out to see, how shall I put it, he thinks of good and evil, of right and wrong as advantage for his party or something against his party or group and I think that we are reaching that stage here in Barbados.

We seem not to be thinking as individuals, but we think in the interest of some group or some party rather than thinking of our country. Now, in other words, it seems to me that we have reached the stage where we are putting the group or the party before the good and the interest of the nation. I am saying, and I will continue to say it, that anyone who thinks his group interest or his party interest is more important than his nation's interest that kind of person is sewing the wind and he will certainly reap the whirlwind because we have got to realise this, that what is good for our island is good for everybody inside the island and I would like us to get away from this always wanting to score a point over the other individual or score a point because he does not belong to the same group as I belong to. Let us think more broadly than that, Mr. President.

I am suggesting that we think in terms of what is good for this country of Barbados and if we can keep that in the back of our minds when we are having our deliberations, I think we will do a lot to further the interest of this nation rather than spend time in political bombast, trying to fight this issue and that issue on party lines. I would suggest that in our future deliberations in this Honourable Chamber, whenever we are talking about trying to pass these things, we stick to them if we consider it best for our country. Then we should argue as objectively as we can in the interest of our country.

Thank you, Mr. President. (APPLAUSE)

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Trotman.

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: Thank you, Mr. President. As Senator Greaves said, Sir — I want to reply quickly to the points raised — Senator Greaves said that the reclassification exercise will cause more problems than it will solve. He claims, Sir, that there are serious anomalies which the Order before the Honourable Senate this afternoon would create. He was not very specific so I cannot answer him specifically. He did, however, say, Sir, that the Nursing Service had some reason to complain. Therefore, Sir, I want to look quickly at what has happened to the Nursing Service and see which officer in the Nursing Service is going to complain.

The Principal Nursing Officer at the Psychiatric Hospital has been regraded from H to G and the Matron regraded from H to G, the Chief Public Health Nurse similarly.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. President, I am just rising on a point of order.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Just exactly what are you rising on?

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: I will tell you, Mr. President. Senator Trotman said that I said that the Nursing Service had reason to complain. I specifically identified the Nursing Assistants.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Give him a chance to come to that, he is going down the list.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. President, it was a broad statement. I thought I should correct it from the very beginning so as not to allow the Honourable Senator to mislead the Honourable Senate.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Just give him a chance with it.

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: If he wants to cut it short, Mr. President, I do not mind.

The same Nursing Assistants, before this Order, were graded Z22 — 18, they are now graded from the signing of this Order Z18—17. In other words, a Senior Nursing Assistant, and I suppose this is the same category of person, has been moved one complete section up in the table of emoluments. Junior Nursing Assistants used to be classified Z27 — 22 with a Qualification Bar at Z22 and then proceeded to Z21—20.

The new proposal is that they start as they were at Z. 27, that the qualification bar is at Z. 23 rather than Z. 22, and rather than have their careers finished at Z. 20

they now proceed to Z. 18. In other words they are getting, I believe, three full increments more because I think Z. 18 is two full increments more than they were getting before. So I want to know which of those two groups is complaining.

Similarly, Sir, the Senator held himself out as defending the cause of the accounting staff, and I have gone through it and I do not want to take it post by post, because he would complain and say he did not say Accountant General, he said accountants, or some such strange thing. If one goes through the Order, Sir, the entire accounting staff starting at the Accountant General and finishing at the post of accountant has been regraded upward, but Senator Greaves comes in here and complains that we are doing nothing for the accounting staff in the Public Service.

The one good question he raised, Sir, in the hour and a quarter I am told it was, was that he wanted to know whether the Messenger/Driver listed in the Order this afternoon had to do with an Overseas Mission or in Barbados. It has to do with Barbados, Sir, so he should not get himself too upset about who is going to Toronto, who is going to Ottawa, or who is going to New York. He started off on the assumption, of course, that if one has two years of consultation one gets a better classification exercise completed than if one is efficient and has it done quickly. Apparently, his idea of doing things properly is to take long over it, but using his method it would be more efficient to use a donkey cart to get to town than to use a bus, but that is his problem. (ASIDES).

Mr. PRESIDENT: Order, order, order.

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: He boasted that in 1974 the former Government took two years of consultation over the classification. I just want to tell him that after that two-year prolonged inefficient exercise there were two amending Orders in 1974, two amending Orders in 1975 and two amending Orders in 1976, notwithstanding the revision of salaries. If that is the sort of way they operate the Government, we are not going to do it that way, because we understand that classification is an on-going subject. One does not magically wake up one day and say we are going to reclassify a thousand posts, it takes time and it takes constant negotiation and consultation between the workers' organisations and the Establishments Division. The mere fact that the Establishments Division has managed on this occasion to operate at a speed unknown to Senator Greaves is nothing for us to complain about. People are accustomed to complaining about Civil Servants, they are too slow, they are too bureaucratic, they do not know what they are doing, and then when they operate efficiently you complain and say they operate too fast.

But Senator Greaves is a strange fellow, because he complained that we were doing nothing for the Labour Department, without realising that, in fact, among the posts listed for regrading was a post of Senior Labour Officer, because the Government does recognise that not only the Chief Labour Officer but his principal Assistants are in need of some higher recognition than was granted under earlier Establishment Orders.

I do not want to say too much about the postal rates, Sir, but, Mr. President, as I understand it, the Post Office is a commercial operation. As I understand it, not only has the Post Office in Barbados got to pay wages in Barbados, not only has the Post Office got to pay for lights and other expenses in Barbados, but the Post Office in Barbados has to pay rates overseas, because when John Jones or Mary Smith posts a letter to America, the postal administration in the foreign country decides how much it costs that administration to deliver the letter in that particular country, and the bill is passed straight to the Barbados postal administration, so it makes nonsense to talk about cheap postal rates in Barbados and insist that a letter to some country should be 50 cents, when in fact that country is asking 60 cents to deliver it. If the country says it wants 60 cents and there is nothing one can do in Barbados about it, then one has to pay 60 cents which is being billed. I believe, Sir, the postal rates would have gone up if we were not interrupted by the occasion of elections, because I believe that in the two months of elections and recess and all of that, the Post Office in fact operated at a loss for two or three months, so rather than face the fact that the Ministry of Information has moved quickly to save the Post Office from getting itself into debt, we now hear that postal rates are a budget measure. First time we know about that.

He complained, Mr. President, and this is important, he complained about the differentials being small and he does not agree with the statement that the differentials are small, and all that. The fact is that the Public Service has some problem in recruiting professional staff. If one, for example, took the Ministry most abused, MCW, I believe that for the last five or six years MCW has been carrying vacancies of six posts of Engineer, not because the Minister does not want engineers, not because the Chief Personnel Officer does not want engineers. The fact is that because there are small differentials, the fact is that because in Barbados we cannot afford to pay competitive salaries to qualified people, we cannot attract people to the posts, and therefore in Barbados we will have to face the hard fact that professional staff are not cheap. They can go other places and work, they do not owe us anything to come here and sacrifice their trades for the citizens of Barbados when they can go somewhere else and work. So when we get down to our little political gimmicks

and talk about who gets big salaries and who gets bigger salaries, if you want to recruit professional staff, if you want to keep highly trained people, you have to pay them.

Senator Hall spoke, and spoke, and spoke. He talked about crime, he talked about tourism, and, to reinforce a point made by my comrade, Senator Ward, I just wanted to show specifically what the Government has been doing in the area of crime prevention. In 1976 the Police Department not only did normal police work but they also manned the Writ Department, they also manned the Immigration Department.

At that time, Sir, to do all that they had 596 constables. Before the amending Order which was laid this afternoon, the number of constables was increased under this administration to 680. In 1976, whereas there were 125 corporals, before this evening's amendment and just before the reclassification which abandoned the post of corporal and integrated that group with sergeants, there were 180 persons in that group. The Station Sergeants were 34, and there were now 45 before this evening. Inspectors were 29; there were 31 before this amendment, and when you realise the actual numbers which have been added on to the police staff plus the fact that we have withdrawn some 50 posts which were tied up with the writ department and probably another 40 or 50 that were tied up with immigration, we have to add in reality another 100 posts to what appears on paper, so that the Government is doing something about crime prevention. It is not as if the Government could not care less what happened to tourists. It is not as if the Government does not care what happens only to Barbadians who walk the street. I know that Senator Ward is a tourist man, but I do not believe that tourists should get any other special protection from Barbadians. I believe that all people who are in Barbados whether as citizens or visitors must be properly protected, and the Government has set about to do that.

Senator Hall keeps out of track with his colleagues all the time. His colleagues we have always known to be anti-agriculture people. The Ministry of Agriculture started its downhill course under the Democratic Labour Party. By 1976 it was not only going downhill, but going downhill in high gear. And then Senator Hall comes in here and talks about agriculture. Now he is running a very serious risk because if his colleagues hear what he said in here, there might just be another public meeting outside Government House. I am sure he is a wise man and he understands. Then he contradicts his party leader because his party leader talks about using indigenous energy sources as an alternative to imported sources, and when Senator Hall gets up he seems to be making fun at the idea of bagasse being used in factories and joked it off as the crop coming to an end because they did not have any more bagasse and makes fun of it.

Does he not understand that bagasse is a local product or does he not understand that it is an alternative source of energy? Thank you, Sir.

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

RESOLUTION TO REPLACE SCHEDULES B AND C TO RESOLUTION NO. 68/1980

Order No. 2 stands in the name of Senator the Hon. N. A. Barrow — to move the passing of a Resolution to replace Schedules B and C to Resolution No. 68/1980 to give effect to the reclassification of the unestablished staff and casual employees of Government.

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: Mr. President, the Resolution before us seeks to do for the weekly and hourly paid staff what the former Resolution did for the monthly paid staff. For the benefit of the workers' representative, I just want to say that more than half the persons who are employed on a weekly or hourly basis have had some upward grading of their posts. To mention a few, there are senior mechanics, senior machinists, senior welders, senior fitters, mechanics, senior electrical assistants, welders, fitters, senior artisans, operators at the asphalt plant, rangers at soil conservation, normal artisans, drivers, steel benders, gardeners, storemen, seed plant attendants, senior lab workers, seed store attendants, blasters at soil conservation, assistant store keepers, charge hands, meter readers, storeporters, pumping attendants, tap repairers, yard foremen, groundsmen, head attendants, laboratory workers, car drivers, steel benders helpers, operators, butlers, the whole range. Workers' representatives might wish to know that.

The other point to note in this exercise is that, whereas there used to be thirteen categories in the key scale, they have now been compressed to ten categories, and the first category to vanish is what used to be category I which was in effect the category reserved for female employees. That is the end of differential pay between men and women in Barbados at least in the public service. Women will now earn the same wages as their counterparts who were always in category II.

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

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. President, I crave your indulgence to make some contribution on this particular item, at the same time to take the opportunity to rebut some of the remarks and, indeed, uncalled for criticisms which were levelled at the Barbados Workers' Union during this debate. Any stranger coming into this gallery and listening to the debate would have wondered whether the debate was about the Barbados Workers'

Union. We have heard about the communist influence within the Barbados Workers' Union.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Just a minute. Are you going back on what we have finished?

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. President, I am not going back on what we have finished.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I am just trying to keep you straight as far as the Rules of this Chamber are concerned. If you wish to go back on any decision or any debate that has taken place already and on which the Senate has made a decision, there is another procedure which you can discuss with me at a convenient time for doing that, but you cannot go back to something we have already come to a conclusion on.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. President, I just want to say I am not at all reflecting on any decision of the Senate, but I believe that I can, in the process of my presentation on this particular matter, which also relates to the question of regrading and reclassification, take an opportunity to deal with some of the criticisms which have been raised particularly in view of the fact that the Barbados Workers' Union is involved at this level with the unestablished and casual employees in the service of this country. We, that is the Barbados Workers' Union, to a large extent represent most of the workers in this particular area.

Mr. PRESIDENT: When you are dealing with this, try and deal in as much relationship as possible with this. If you are clever enough you will know how to get it without referring to what has been done before. I cannot do your job for you, but I think you can find a way to answering attitudes to the Union by the Union's attitude to this particular Resolution.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. President, I will get it in. You can be assured of that, Mr. President, even if we stay here until midnight.

From time to time criticisms are made about the Barbados Workers' Union, about the attitude of the Barbados Workers' Union, the lack of cooperation of the Barbados Workers' Union in matters relating to the workers and in matters relating to decisions which are made by the Government from time to time. As I said at the outset, the Barbados Workers' Union is particularly interested in this particular area of reclassification of the unestablished staff and the casual employees of the Government.

I can well recall when, during the negotiations in 1980, the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister raised the question of reclassification as part of the overall settlement regarding these workers. At that time the union took

the position that reclassification is something which takes time and we could not deal with it as part and parcel of the negotiations but would want to defer this to a later date where we could sit down, hopefully consulting with the Government, and come to an amicable arrangement on the question of the reclassification of the unestablished staff and the casual employees of this country.

People talk about the Barbados Workers' Union. At least they talk about the fact and they claim that the Barbados Workers' Union is not cooperative. They also claim and, indeed, try to suggest that all the ills of this society have been brought about by the Barbados Workers' Union, that this great organization which has made such an important contribution to the political, social and economic life of this country is the cause of all of the troubles taking place in this country.

I want to say quite clearly, and I want to challenge anybody in this hon. Senate to deny it, that Barbados has the lowest industrial strike record in any part of the Caribbean and, I daresay, in any part of the western hemisphere and it is purely because of the responsible approach which has been used by the Barbados Workers' Union in matters relating to workers in Barbados.

If we were irresponsible and if, as Senator Barrow would want this honourable Chamber to believe, we were under the influence and under the direction of the communist, whether Russians or Cubans, then the industrial life of this country would be disrupted, almost on a daily basis.

I want to say very clearly that this kind of accusation has now become rather hackneyed. It is used, as it were, as a red herring in an attempt to pull down the Barbados Workers' Union in the eyes of this community and it is used in an attempt to hide whatever problems exist in this society and to place squarely on the shoulders of the Barbados Workers' Union all of the ills that we have and with all of this talk about Communism, and this kind of nonsense that you hear, I would like to remind this Honourable Chamber that history is very strange.

When the late Sir Grantley Adams was the chief cook and bottle washer in the Barbados Workers' Union do you know that pictures of Lenin and Stalin were prominently displayed on the walls of the Barbados Workers' Union? Do you know, Mr. President, that the hammer and sickle, the emblem of the Russian Revolution, were also prominently displayed on the walls of the Barbados Workers' Union. This was all during the regime of the late Sir Grantley Adams when he was in control of the Barbados Workers' Union.

Do you know the red flag, the song, "the people's flag is deepest red" which was adopted by the Russian Revolution was sung before the commencement of every meeting which was held in the Barbados Workers' Union. This was during the time that the Barbados Labour Party had control of the Barbados Workers' Union and they now come to talk about communists and communist influence within the Barbados Workers' Union, utter rubbish, utter nonsense.

I want, Mr. President, to get on to some comments which were made about the Barbados Workers' Union by Senator Griffith this evening because I dismiss as not having any particular worth or value the comments which were made by Senator Barrow.

SENATOR M. WARD: On a point of order, I heard you say earlier and correctly that you could not refer to criticisms of previous Bills in here. What he is referring to did not happen in this Bill. It happened in a Bill in the past. Am I correct or wrong?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I am hoping Senator Greaves that you will follow the direction of the Chair. If you are following the line you are taking to criticise a decision of the Senate which has already been taken and gone, I have told you to try and confine your remarks to the Resolution before you and be as clever as you would like in getting into your arguments the rebuttals of comments that may have been setting out the union's attitude in this particular case but do not disregard what I am saying because I would have to pull you up.

SENATOR E. GREAVES: Point well taken, Mr. President, but I just wonder if you may allow me just to ask, without being regarded as an upstart, to ask of you whether the Senate has decided, since I am not supposed to comment on any decision of this Honourable Chamber which has been passed before at this point, whether the Senate has decided that the Barbados Workers' Union is an organization which is influenced by the communists and therefore I cannot comment on that.

Mr. PRESIDENT: How can anybody say that?

SENATOR E. GREAVES: If hon. Senator Ward is saying that I cannot refer and I recognize that any comment on the decision which has been taken already on the regrading and upgrading.....

Mr. PRESIDENT: All right. Just bear that in mind and get ahead with what you are dealing with now. Will you? I vaguely heard you mention about staying in here until midnight. None of us will be staying in here until midnight. I might draw to your attention as a unionist that after 9 o'clock we will run into a lot of trouble with the trade union members of staff.

SENATOR E. GREAVES: Mr. President, that was an aside. I was not aware that the Chair paid attention to asides.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Let us get on with it. The members here are getting unnecessarily hot and I had mentioned earlier, and Senator Jones asked in a recent speech, that we keep things a little bit more temperate.

We are just at the beginning of a session. There is no need for all of this adversary politics. Try and confine yourselves to the Resolution and let us get it over and be done with. We have five years, I hope, before us and there will be plenty of times to get hot, the Budget time and special Resolutions and what not. Proceed.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. President, for some years the Barbados Workers' Union had made a proposal that the female workers in Category 1 who were basically doing the same jobs as the male workers in Category 2 should get the same rate. This was consistent with a policy which was pursued by the Barbados Workers' Union for a long time. Indeed, there is nowhere in the private sector where men and women are working and where the Barbados Workers' Union has an Agreement — and they are doing the same job — that you find that there is a differential in pay. (ASIDE) I am on good ground on that and so you can see the level of responsibility which has always been pursued by the Barbados Workers' Union in matters relating to workers in this country. That kind of responsibility has been evidenced in everything which we have done.

I would want to disagree completely with the intervention which was made by Senator Griffith when he attempted.....

SENATOR C. A. GRIFFITH: On a point of order, Mr. President, I have not spoken on this resolution.

Mr. PRESIDENT: You see the sort of thing that can happen. I beg you, Senator Greaves, to try and stick to this as far as possible and make your general observations in the context of this resolution.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. President, it has been alleged that this present Administration has, and I quote, "no experience of collaboration with the Barbados Workers Union since 1976." It has further been alleged that to have involved the Barbados Workers Union in this whole exercise of reclassification.....

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: Mr. President, Sir, I am sorry to interrupt Sir but I am the only person who has spoken so far and I made no reference to collaboration with the Barbados Workers Union.

Mr. PRESIDENT: It gets more and more awkward, if Senators keep referring to this, that and the other. I do not wish to curb the Senator if he is making arguments in respect of this and alluding to people's suggestions as to the role of the Union. I think it would be unfair of me to stop him. But I have asked him to try and keep within as reasonable bounds as possible on this particular issue and avoid creating situations that result. We will be here, but will get nowhere with a lot of interruptions as to what "I said" and what "I did not say".

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. President, with your indulgence, I will endeavour to make the points which I want to make on this particular matter.

As I said, we are dealing with responsibility, we are dealing with attitudes and we are dealing with approaches adopted by the Barbados Workers Union on this whole question of reclassification and the attitude of the Government which we have heard enunciated here this evening. I said that an allegation was made that the Government has no experience of collaboration with the Barbados Workers Union since 1976. I have also said that it has also been alleged that it would be tantamount to self-destruction to bring the Union leadership into the exercise of regrading and reclassifying. It seems to me to be the position which the Government has adopted in this matter because I am talking of what is clearly a lack of any proper consultation or, indeed, any consultation between the Government and the workers' organisations concerned in this particular matter and if we are going to be talking about classification and reclassification and regrading and what have you, then we have to pose some very serious questions, when we hear that kind of policy enunciated, when for example, we hear a Government Senator saying that to bring the Barbados Workers Union into the whole question of classification and upgrading would be tantamount or would be like bringing in mongoose amongst the chickens.

I think, Mr. President, this is a very serious statement and indeed the Government must stand indicted if this is the kind of policy which it is going to pursue on this whole question of industrial relations.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: On a point of order, Mr. President, I believe, Sir, there is a Standing Order that says speeches must be relevant to the matter under discussion and I am hearing quotations, Sir, which clearly have not come either from the subject matter under discussion or from the speech made by Senator Trotman who is the only other person who has spoken so far on this topic and whose speech therefore, by implication, part of the subject matter under discussion.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I am trying very hard, I do not think it would be unfair argument on the part of the Senator if he says that Government members' speeches have given him good reason to believe that the Government has a particular attitude to the Union in regard to these discussions. Proceed.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Thank you, Mr. President. I think it is important, Mr. President, that we recognise the attitude of the Government in this whole matter and, as I said, this was enunciated very, very clearly by the Honourable Senator who spoke on this question, not this specific question but on the question of reclassifications and regradings and if this is going to be the attitude of the Government where, when they have matters of such serious importance to settle that they will adopt this kind of high-handed attitude and approach, I would say that it is very clear that we have some rough days ahead, some very, very rough days ahead because no self-respecting trade union will or can sit down and allow this kind of attitude to gain root within the corridors of Government or, indeed, this society. That would be the same thing, Mr. President, as saying that in the private sector an employer can adopt the same kind of attitude towards the Trade Union and when one is talking, one must recognise that our very Constitution, I think it is Section 21 of our Constitution, states very clearly that we in this country must recognise the right of trade unions to exist and the right of workers to become organised...(ASIDES)...and when you can get this kind of attitude coming from a Government, what are you leaving the private sector to do? What kind of impression and, indeed, what kind of approaches are you instilling in the minds of the private sector. One must therefore come to the conclusion, for example, that when we see certain investors coming here from North America adopting the attitude that they do not want to see the trade union movement within their plant, then we can very well understand why they are adopting this kind of attitude, because they must have been led to believe, in some way, somewhere, at some time of recent date they have been led to believe that they can adopt this kind of attitude, and this was clearly spelt out here this evening by the Hon. Senator Griffith talking about letting the Barbados Trade Union into a discussion on classification would be like bringing a mongoose in among the chickens.

SENATOR C. A. GRIFFITH: On a point of order, Mr. President. I have not spoken on this Resolution before the Senate.

Mr. PRESIDENT: All right, we have had that out. Try and get on with it.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: I want, Mr. President, to say that, on the question of this reclassification, unfortunately the whole question of consultation in my view seemed not to have been properly pursued. Senator

Trotman alluded to the number of people who stand to benefit from this regrading and this reclassification of workers in the Unestablished Staff and the Casual Employees of Government. It is interesting to note that there has been, as it were, a turn around in the categories. Prior to this reclassification exercise the persons who are now in Category X used to be, generally speaking, in Category I and Category II. There is no particular problem with that, except that I thought he would have done well to have explained this particular turn about, why, for example, has the electrician at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital been put in Category I and why should general workers be placed in Category X, just from a point of view of knowing what is the rationale behind this kind of arrangement?

I agree that there has been a contraction in the number of categories which existed before and this is probably done to tighten up on situations where I think you had maybe two categories carrying the same rates of pay in this particular area. So that rather than having two separate categories for the same rate of pay you put them into one. But I think that when all is said and done and, in spite of the fact that the result of this reclassification has led to an increase in pay for some workers, not all, for example, the people in the present Category V who will move to a new Category VI still remain at \$156.80, the people in Category VI who will move to Category V still remain at \$165.60, with, of course, one or two exceptions which would go beyond that, basically the point which I am making is that the rates are still not competitive with certain areas in the public sector. There, for some time, the Barbados Workers' Union has been making the very sound point that, in the Public Service, if we are going to be able to retain artisans of some quality and some worth, if they are not to be attracted away into the private sector, we have to pay some attention to their rates of pay, and, indeed, during the last negotiations, the Barbados Workers' Union, if you were to read the Minutes of those meetings, made the very serious point and we pointed to it, that there were a number of artisans and skilled workers who ought to be getting a better wage than they were getting at that point in time even after negotiations.

It is true that it would seem as if the Government has given some kind of recognition to this point, but even so we did not have an opportunity to sit down and to discuss, or indeed the Government did not even attempt in my view to canvass, the view of the Barbados Workers' Union and, indeed, to consult with the Barbados Workers' Union in this particular matter. This is where I say, Mr. President, that this is a very serious departure from what we have come to accept as normal industrial relations practice in this country, and the Government must stand indicted on this particular failure.

Now in the past, there used to be an arrangement that these Unestablished Staff and Casual Employees in the Government be released to go and assist in reaping the sugar crop. That used to be the practice. This practice, Mr. President, has been discontinued and we hear complaints being made about the shortage of labour to reap the canes. We hear about all sorts of criticisms, again against the Barbados Workers' Union, because as I said, whenever there are any ills in society, the Barbados Workers' Union is responsible for them. That is according to this Barbados Labour Party Administration. When, for example, it can be written or when Barbados can be held up as a model in industrial relations almost in the world, nothing good is said about the responsibility and about the leadership and the good sense of the Barbados Workers' Union. I just want to say we are not appealing for any consideration as far as that is concerned.

We have a particular job to do and that job is precisely to ensure that workers in this country get a better deal and that they are able to make a meaningful contribution towards the development of this country. So that when you have a situation where it is recognised that, through no fault of the Barbados Workers' Union, there is a problem in the Sugar Industry as far as the reaping of the sugar crop is concerned, where in the past it was the policy which was being pursued that workers in this kind of area that we are talking about now were released to go and assist in reaping the sugar crop, we are hearing now about people conducting campaigns, about people not cutting canes and all this kind of foolishness. If that kind of statement has been brought in here, I believe that the context in which it was said ought to be ventilated. The statement which was made was to the effect that the owners of the sugar industry, the people who own sugar plantations, should also show some leadership in this area. If they wanted to cut canes that they also can come and show that they can cut canes since the canes are there. After all, if you own canes, are you going to tell me that you cannot go and reap the canes yourself? (Senator the Hon. N. A. BARROW: You own a car; do you repair it?) That is besides the point. I have a motor car and you have a motor car. If you have difficulty in getting your car repaired or getting some matter fixed on the motor car, would you try to do it? I am saying, Mr. President.....

Mr. PRESIDENT: Is all this relevant?

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: We are talking about the release of workers, the unestablished staff and casual employees, to go and assist in reaping the sugar crop which was a policy pursued before, and I believe it is a matter on which there should be some kind of indication as to this kind of arrangement. If one is going to talk about the sugar industry and the failure of the sugar industry, I can talk on that. Unfortunately it would seem

as if I have to be very careful. I will leave it at that, Mr. President.

I could not think that any reasonable and self-respecting person could say that we have had serious disruptions in terms of strikes and go-slows in this area of employees. There has been a criticism about the very low productivity of workers, particularly in this area, the area of the unestablished staff and the casual employees. I believe that the former Minister of Labour, now Minister of Transport and Works, made reference to this quite recently in terms of the criticisms which are heaped on people who work weeding the roads and who work as labourers and generally speaking who use a hoe in the sun. Many people when they are talking about low productivity within the Public Service always tend to focus on these people whom they can see working alongside the road and who I would say justifiably from time to time take refuge under the shade from the ravages of a hot midday sun.

People sometimes do not refer to, for example, the tremendous amount of waste and the amount of time which is wasted by other categories of employees who very often take an unfair advantage of the situation which they occupy in the Public Service, and I want to say that these workers in this category are key workers, are important workers, are indeed most of them productive workers, and at least deserve all the money and more which they are at present getting even though, we see that there is an upward movement in this particular exercise in some of the categories that we have here. So that when an allusion is made to productivity and a remark is passed to imply or to give the impression that people in the Barbados Workers' Union do not have any concern about productivity, one can say very clearly, and as I said, any reasonable person can understand that, for a long time, we have been expressing our concern to the effect that if we are going to be able to move our country forward, we have to pay very important attention to this area of productivity, and I do not believe that any reasonable person who has been living in Barbados can say that the Barbados Workers' Union has not adopted a serious position on this particular matter.

I would not want to draw Senator Seale who is sitting next to me into this debate. I am looking forward to hearing his contribution at some time in the not too distant future. I hope he would not remain a silent Senator, but I am sure talking on this question of productivity and the Barbados Workers' Union that he can attest to the fact that we do not stand for any nonsense when it comes to the question of productivity. As a matter of fact, without attempting to bring tales out of school, I am sure that he would be able to recognise the worth and the value of the Barbados Workers' Union, particularly the kind of contribution which we make to this area.

As I said, there is always an accusation which is being levelled at these workers, particularly the ones who are working with the Ministry of Communications and Works. Do you know what I believe is one of the major problems in this area? The lack of proper supervision, the fact that, as we have alluded to earlier on, there is an absence of proper management approaches and techniques in this particular area. But after all you still have to recognize that, in a given situation, particularly in this area people have some difficulties in having to face the sun all day.

Just let me give you an interesting example. I think it was last year or the year before, probably two years ago, that the then Minister of Communications had devised a scheme where he sought to increase the productivity of these workers who work in MCW, the road menders and the people who hoe and that sort of thing. We are talking about productivity and they were put on an incentive scheme, wasting productivity.

Some workers, as I understand it, decided that it would be better to go out earlier when the sun was not so hot and do the work which was allocated to them so that, by the time the sun got very hot, they would have finished the task which was set for them for that particular day. This was done and as a result of that, many workers were able to increase their take home pay. But this was not apparently what the Ministry had intended and that scheme was, in a matter of weeks or months, abandoned.

We have to recognize that when we talk about productivity we have to be serious about it but just because, as I said, you have to realize that if you introduce an incentive scheme and workers are able to meet the task which has been set for them, the whole question of hours would not necessarily apply in this particular situation. To give an example, the union was not even consulted about this.

The scheme was abandoned because in the view of the Ministry, the workers were working for too much money. That is why the scheme was abandoned and so we, as I said, have to think in terms of bringing the kind of techniques which we all know should be brought to bear on this particular situation relating to getting value, as it were, for the rates that are being paid, and if we do not have the wherewithal to do it, then I consider that some attempt should be made now to modernize our approaches in this particular matter.

As I have said at the outset, I am not opposed to this Resolution because it incorporates a number of suggestions which were made by the Barbados Workers' Union. The only difficulty which I have is that, quite apart from a general statement which was made by the Barbados Workers' Union during negotiations, quite apart

from that, there were no ongoing discussions or consultation on this particular matter and one has noticed that the Barbados Labour Party administration, for one reason or another, has been constantly, it has been happening too often, adopting this particular approach, particularly when it comes to the Barbados Workers' Union about non-consultation in these kinds of matters and particularly when it would seem as if political pseudos can accrue from a method like this.

As I have had to say, we have been consulted upon matters, for example, relating to wage increases and not asking for foregoing increases for a year. We have been asked by the Barbados Labour Party administration in the past, because, according to them at that time, things were difficult but, in spite of all that, we have shown in my view the utmost cooperation with this Government in matters relating to workers in this country.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Order, please.

SENATOR E. GREAVES: We are talking about cooperation and, as I have said, history will show very clearly that the Barbados Workers' Union has been the most cooperative with the Barbados Labour Party administration, for example, in the number of industrial disputes that took place in this country involving the Government or in the private sector and disputes which had the sanction of the Barbados Workers' Union — and I am dealing with the Barbados Workers' Union in this particular regard you will see that between 1976 and the present time, there were by far less than, let us say, in the period 1971 to 1976.

Just read a report, or any of the reports. Take the reports from the Labour Department and this can be substantiated. I can rattle off disputes which took place in Barbados between 1971 to 1981 which had the sanction of the Barbados Workers' Union and, as I said, you will find that, on this question of cooperation, there have been less disputes in the period 1976 to 1981 than there were previous to that.

Yet, one would hear about lack of cooperation with the Barbados Workers' Union. It is true that we have to express our point of view on various matters concerned with the workers of this country. Our point of view might not necessarily be the same point of view which the Government is espousing. But, after all — I heard Senator Linton talk about this is a democracy — Are you going to accuse us now because we disagree with a position put by the Government or a spokesman of Government? Are you going to say that we do not have that privilege? Are you going to say the workers, through their representative, do not have that kind of privilege? After all, I think that, if we are going to look at this matter, and if we, in the future, are going to be able to maintain the support, critical though it might be, and the

cooperation of a well-established organisation, an organisation which is concerned with this country, then, I believe that the kind of attitude which I have alluded to and which has been demonstrated by this Labour Party Administration over and over again particularly concerning matters on which the Barbados Workers' Union is involved, unless we can change that kind of attitude and that kind of approach, I make no apologies for coming to the conclusion that all sorts of difficulties will beset us in the future.

So, I hope Mr. President, that we, as I said, the Government will be able to pay some attention to the points which I have raised in this debate. We have, that is, the Government of Barbados has ratified two key conventions of the International Labour Organisation. I heard Senator Barrow, the Honourable Leader of the Senate, earlier today referring to a document which he is laying on the table relating to the proceedings of the 1980 ILO Conference. Both the Democratic Labour Party and the Barbados Labour Party have been paying reasonably close attention to the International Labour Organisation and I believe that there ought to be some respect for the Conventions which have been ratified by this country. I refer to Conventions 87 and 98 which Conventions have to do with the right to organise and the right to collective bargaining and consultations between employer and employee.

In this particular area the Government is the employer and the union is the organisation representing the employees in the Public Sector and if we are going to respect Conventions which we ratify, even although ratification of an ILO Convention does not have the same force and effect as Law, as on the Statute Book, nevertheless, ratification implies that the Government which has ratified the particular Convention has agreed that it will follow the tenets of that particular Convention. That is why Mr. President, it is disturbing to me that we are in this kind of situation here this evening particularly in view of the fact that this particular Convention which I have now brought into prominence has been ratified a long time ago. I would like to think that, in the future, the Government will adopt a different attitude in these particular matters.

As you said, I will have many opportunities to deal with a number of other areas which are of concern to the people of this country and also to the workers of this country. I recognise (ASIDE: The people of St. Lucy.)..... They are of this country even though you try to put a bridge down there that cut off half of them and had them in no man's land, but anyhow.....

Mr. PRESIDENT: Please address the Chair.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: I would like to say that there will be ample opportunity for me to deal

with some other matters. I hope that the very sound points which have been made in this contribution will be taken to heart by the Government.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Barrow.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to wind up on behalf of Government. I do so, Sir, in spite of the fact that there is no real disagreement on the measure before us. There are a number of points that perhaps would need to be clarified, judging by the path which has been trodden by Senator Greaves.

I do not think, Sir, there is any reason for Senator Greaves to become as agitated as he has become over this question because, indeed, when we talk about certain influences in the Union, we are not talking about people like Senator Greaves, so we are not indeed gainsaying the fact that he is an official of a distinguished organisation which indeed has thousands of members, many of whom support the Party that forms this Government and many of whom support the Party which Senator Greaves represents. That is not the point. The Union is not an issue, Senator Greaves and his attitude is not an issue. As a member of a political Party, he will sometimes find himself straddling two horses. There is ample evidence of that. We are not dealing with that.

We are, in fact, not prepared to close our eyes to the fact that, in the publications of the Organisation which must say something, there is a quite definite tone "the Government can do nothing right". There are people, therefore, with influence within the organisation who are pushing on this course of confrontation. This is a completely separate matter and Senator Greaves, I wish would not misunderstand the reason we are making certain kinds of comments in here.

Secondly, he must also understand when Senator Griffith makes certain statements, as he did this evening, that it is a reflection of a reaction which some of us on this side are presently experiencing because it is unusual, to say the least, for the Barbados Workers Union in all its wisdom, ever to attend, it is unusual for that Body to attend negotiations and behave as it did in the last negotiations with the Government where it merely stated what it wanted, it did not negotiate. Let us face facts, the Union does not normally behave like that nor does any other responsible union. We can also, Sir, go on to make the point that when the able and experienced leader, the General Secretary of the Union is in Barbados, except that he himself has been becoming more hostile in his comments to the Government, when one picks up the newspapers and

reads generally, the attitude of the union, however, is a more sane and mature attitude.

I believe that if things in the Union continue to develop along lines which would ensure the succession of somebody like Senator Greaves, that maturity and that good sense will, in fact, prevail.

There is however, Sir, a point to which I must allude. Senator Greaves thought that the business of cutting the canes ought to be put into context. I believe that his statement in here this evening needs to be put in context. If you are going to say let the owners go and show some leadership in the cutting of the canes, what kind of statement is that except you are arguing that it is demeaning labour and they do not want to do it themselves. We are intelligent people and we live in a community with a certain amount of sophistication, we live in a highly literate community, a community in which the few people who cannot read and write show a very sound understanding of these matters. People are not misled when you tell them they do not want to see a cane blade, nor can they be misled when you tell them let the people go and cut them themselves. In fact I think the words were "let the white cut the canes themselves." I believe that Senator Greaves should not again find himself straddling two horses, coming in here and trying to defend a statement which I do not believe that he himself really would seriously make even on a political platform.

The other point perhaps I ought to reply to relates to the business of workers. According to him they justifiably seek the shade. Then he comes back and says they need supervision. Do they need supervision to supervise them seeking the shade? I believe that we can put together a little more sense in our speeches than that, Sir. The Government used to lay off a lot of people. In the words of Senator Greaves there used to be a practice of releasing people to go and reap the sugar crop. Call a spade a spade. They used to lay off a lot of people. When the Democratic Labour Party laid them off it was releasing them, when we lay them off it is laying them off. The fact is that they did not ever manage a programme of work sufficient to keep these people employed continuously all year round. In the one year when we found ourselves in that position we went to the experiment which did not work, the experiment of the four day week which proved very unpopular. I think it was 500 indeed that Sleepy Smith when he was Minister laid off in a single year. (SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: They did not have any money to pay them). This is where we get it, Sir. If the Senator says it is because he had no money to

pay them, why are we calling it releasing? The National Housing Corporation has just released a number of people because they cannot get in the rents. Do you remember how the Democratic Labour Party told the people not to pay the rent?

Again, Sir, we have the statement that when Barbados is being held up as a model in industrial relations nothing good is said, but the B.W.U. is to be blamed for all the ills in this country. I believe that Senator Greaves would wish to deny ever having made that statement, because if there is anything that has been very, very vociferously stated, particularly by the Leader of his Party, it is the good fortune of this country to have a trade unionist of the stature of Frank Walcott and the proud record the country boasts of in industrial relations. We have always accredited this to both responsibility among the unions and the attitude of management. I do not think we can talk about one without the other, because neither one by itself can be responsible for such a good climate.

He made some reference to foreign industrialists. I do not know if Senator Greaves was referring to the point when Barbados used to be advertised as a place of cheap labour. Perhaps that is what he is referring to. But the Barbados Labour Party Government, and I wish to make this very clear, Sir, has noticed this growing hostility from certain segments of the Union's administration. We have also noticed a new thing taking place in union negotiations. After Government decided to pay the money it was our information that the workers downstairs in the Post Office who went on the go-slow were advised by Mr. Greaves or one of his colleagues that they should take the money and go slow.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. President, on a point of order. I do not think that the Hon. Senator should be allowed to make that kind of accusation against me. That was a decision of the Barbados Workers' Union, so keep the personal aspect out of it.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Sir, I am distressed that I have had confirmation, because how can you tell people to take the money and yet go slow? Go-slow is industrial action, and if there is no dispute you have no right, it is downright irresponsible for you to tell people to behave as though they have a dispute when there is no dispute. If you take the money, you take the money.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I think the Senator has requested that you do not identify him personally with that decision.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Sir, I am not identifying him personally, he is an official of that organisation and he cannot divorce himself from its decisions. I think it is a black day in the history of trade unionism when, that sort of thing could happen, when in fact he can come in here and talk about it. I believe, Sir, that if I were not in this Honourable Chamber I would be forced to challenge the accuracy of Senator Greaves' recollection, because I do not think that Senator Williams on this side would ever agree to anything like that, if you really want to know, Sir.

The final point, Sir. According to Senator Greaves the reclassification has led to an increase for some workers and not for all. I am at a loss to understand how we could expect otherwise. We are not talking about a wages negotiation, we are talking about a reclassification. What right do we have to expect that in a reclassification every worker will get an increase? Yet this is a criticism I gather, that only some people got an increase. Then he says, referring to one or two categories, that the rate determined is still not competitive. I, Mr. President, am not in a position to contest that, I have not even worried to check the point. I am aware that in some cases the rates being paid by Government are such that rates paid outside are not competitive with those rates, and I, in fact, expect that in some categories what Senator Greaves said would be true, that in one or two categories the rates would not be competitive. The fact is that overall the reclassification exercise has led to a very satisfactory result.

I cannot let this pass before I sit down, Sir. Senator Greaves spoke about the piece work scheme which the then Minister Bolden introduced up at the Ministry of Communications and Works, as it then was. It is my understanding that the scheme had to be discontinued because they could not get union agreement to its operation. I cannot see how Senator Greaves can come in here and praise the Scheme now that we could not get union agreement to. Senator Greaves must think we are a set of jokers.

He refused to agree with the thing, saying that people were carrying home so much money, and that is why the Government stopped it. When the facts are that they would not agree and it had to be stopped. I have never seen a clearer case where I could justifiably accuse the member of misleading the Chamber, but I believe that that would be crossing the line and I would not do it. He knows very well that the facts are other than what he put to us. The union refused to agree, and it is true that people were carrying home a fair piece of money, those

that were prepared to do the piece work. It is a fact, and he comes in here and tells us all sorts of nonsense.

Mr. President, I really do not know who can put up with that approach to political debate, but I can't, and if Senator Greaves would just wish to do this country a favour, he should remind his colleagues in the Workers' Union just like the people who are the members of the Union know they must also know that the Government cannot always be wrong and do not come to us with any inflexible attitudes, because if you push a man too hard he is not going to turn and run all the time. We do not want any confrontation with anybody because it will not be in the best interest of the people of this country, and the Union must be led by persons who are sufficiently responsible and who have the interest of the country at heart, indeed as has been the case so far, but if those fellows lurking in the wings are to take over, God help this country.

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

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE USE OF THE SUM
OF £471,750 STERLING FROM LLOYDS BANK
LIMITED AND £83,250 STERLING FROM
LLOYDS BANK INTERNATIONAL
LIMITED**

The Third Order of the Day was called — to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the use of the sum of £471,750 Sterling from Lloyds Bank Limited and £83,250 Sterling from Lloyds Bank International Limited for financing the additional costs of providing goods and services for the purpose of developing the Coast Guard.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. President, this Resolution arises from an increase in the cost of the Coast Guard development project. The reasons for the project have been explained over and over and have certainly been explained in this Chamber at length before. I do not therefore propose to go into the reasons for the project now. If the debate takes a certain line, I will have to go on and explain the difference in approach to providing the Coast Guard. The entire project involved the construction of a 37.5 metre fast patrol boat, conversion of two trawlers bought over from International Seafoods to form offshore patrol vessels, and development of a new Coast Guard base at the Pierhead to replace the base at Enterprise Christ Church which became unusable because of the heavy accumulation of sand which effectively blocked the jetty. In short Sir, it is not that we are spending money on a Coast Guard base for the first time, but that we are spending hoping this time not to be building a beach again, and there is the provision of loan service personnel to train local crews to establish an effective coast guard command.

Sir, I am in a position to tell the Senate of the progress so far of the project. The fast patrol boat, the Trident, is complete and was handed over to the Chief of Staff on the 9th of this month. First hand report is that it is in very fine condition and should therefore not subject those who ride on it to the same degree of sickness as the late George Fergusson or the George Fergusson. Trials have been undertaken and training of a Barbadian crew to man the Trident is underway and this will continue until late October when the boat will be ready to sail to Barbados. As to the offshore patrol vessels, one converted trawler, the Enterprise, has been received from Trinidad. That has come in and a few minor defects have been noted. Representatives from Swan Hunter, the people who are doing the conversion to these boats, and Brooke Marine, the people who have built the Trident, have examined the matter along with local officials and experts, and it is agreed that Swan Hunter will make good most of these defects at no extra charge. This also gives us the opportunity, Sir, to ensure that extra precaution is taken with the other boat, the Excellence, so that it should be in excellent condition before it sets out from Trinidad.

In the careenage, work is in progress on the base. The steel frame of the workshop has been completed. The building, when completed, will be expected to withstand hurricane winds while workshop facilities will be available for the maintenance of other ships beside those of the Barbados Coast Guard.

I think, Sir, it is a matter of general knowledge the need for a boat yard to maintain other ships, so we are not merely providing for the Coast Guard in this exercise. In sum, we shall shortly be able to put five patrol boats in the water. The largest, the Trident, will carry life rafts for 200 people in case of an air disaster at take off or landing. It is extremely important to a country so dependent on the tourism sector of its economy. It will also be able to patrol the outer limits of our exclusive economic zone, thus maintaining surveillance of our fishing rights. The offshore patrol vessels will have equipment for dispersing oil slicks and thus safeguarding our beaches.

Sir, the original cost of the conversion of boats was given at £339,102 and that of the coast guard base at £400,000. When the two trawlers were delivered to Swan Hunter it was found that their condition was worse than it had first been noted. As a result the following extra work had to be done: repairs to badly damaged areas of the hull above and below the waterline; repairs to the rudder quadrant found loose on arrival in Trinidad, replacement of anchor chutes corroded beyond repair, manufacture and installation of filter plates to all tanks as these were missing on arrival. In addition a number of items appeared to have been removed from the boats before delivery in Trinidad.

While some have been discovered to be needed to bring the vessels to satisfactory operational state, there is a long list of some twenty-five items including an electric cap stand for anchor, 25kil. generator and so on. Then there were additional items considered available, wind screen wipers, auto pilots, radio direction finder, water heater, etc. This resulted, Sir, in an increase and then there is a further increase to cover inflation, an increase of 5%.

The Coast Guard base involved the provision of a workshop complex which was to have been a conversion of the old Baggage Warehouse. That building after infrastructural analysis was found not likely to take the installation of an overhead travelling crane and also the hazards from fire were too great while the building itself could not be expected to stand up in a major hurricane.

It was therefore desirable that the Baggage Warehouse should be replaced by the workshop building which would contain welding and burning of a blacksmith's shop, fuel injection workshops electronics/maintenance room, wood-work shop and so on, at an additional cost of £370,000. The total additional cost is something in excess of half a million pounds, £544,823 and the Agreement made between the Government and Brooke Marine was then agreed should be varied to the extent that additional expenditure should be £550,000 which should be incurred and if possible, that amount should be provided by adjustment of the Loan Agreement with Lloyds Bank Ltd.

I believe, Sir, if Hon. Senators think back they will remember that these were funds which were on extremely concessionary terms with a very, very little interest rate, indeed, and really represented assistance for the provision of proper Coast Guard facilities which are necessary particularly for the purpose of the control of our waters and our economic zone.

Mr. President I move that the Senate do now concur in this Resolution.

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

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. President, at the risk of going beyond 9.00 o'clock, I can assure you that I am going to be short in this contribution.

The position of the Democratic Labour Party in this matter is very clear. Senator Hall and myself represent the Democratic Labour Party in this Honourable Chamber and the Party has taken a position on this matter to vote against this particular provision and so we will do here tonight.

Just let me say that when this matter was first raised in the Lower House, when the Prime Minister brought in the Resolution to raise the money for the Coast Guard for building what we describe as this warship which we understand is going to be called the Trident Warship, the Democratic Labour Party took the view that this country at this stage of a generally bad economic time could ill afford the luxury of, as I said, what we have referred to as this warship.

Now, I think that this is a matter of some concern to us in the Democratic Labour Party, the general direction which has taken place in the Defence Force, the Coast Guard being, of course, an integral part of the Defence Force. We are concerned about what we see and what people on the streets of Barbados have described as the growing militarism in this country.

I was talking about a month or two ago, maybe a little longer than that, to a gentleman who worked in Barbados at one of the international institutions here and is now based in Washington. He was making this same observation. He said that he returned to Barbados and he was rather shocked to see the open flaunting of the military in this country in terms of the very high profile which they are exhibiting at almost every corner. The Coast Guard is part of the Defence Force and of general spending on defence in this country. So that when we are critical of this, we are being critical because we believe that the effort which has been made to raise this kind of money to finance the equipping of the Coast Guard, could even better be utilised in an attempt to raise money which would answer the pressing needs in the social and economic areas in Barbados.

I know that, in reply to criticisms which were levelled against this kind of expenditure in the Lower House, the argument was advanced that this money could not have been diverted, for example, to housing. This is not what we are saying.

We recognise that when you raise a loan for a purpose like this it would be difficult to convert it to another area but this is not the point that we are making. We are saying that there are other pressing, social and economic needs in this country where the Government should be directing its attention. When you think in terms of the very serious problems in housing, the lack of enough units to ensure the very need which exists in this society, when you think of the appalling conditions in many other areas of our day to day life, then we are contented that the Government is showing not only a lack of concern, but, as it were, is misdirecting its attention, as far as these fundamental matters are concerned. We know that the Barbados Labour Party Administration has shown very clearly its tendency to support what we describe as this growing

militarism. The policy, I would suggest, is a cock-eyed policy.

One only has to remember, and I have made this point already in another place and my colleagues have made this point quite recently and we will continue to make this particular point, one has to bear in mind, look at events not only in Africa, Latin America, but also look at recent events in the Caribbean where Governments have developed, nurtured and cuddled Defence Forces where they have been given almost everything that they want, where Defence Force personnel in this country can drive around in an air-conditioned coach. Where you get that kind of attitude, we are saying that this is a misdirection of the scarce resources in this country and there is no doubt that resources are scarce.

I think that since last week when the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister made his Financial Statement, mini Budget, Budget, whatever you want to call it, Barbadians have become alive to the real and serious problems which confront the society and of which they were not aware before. When therefore you have a situation where, in spite and in the face of all of these economic difficulties, we are raising a loan to spend on the further development of the Defence Force because as I said, the Coast Guard is an integral part of the Defence Force, then we have to be concerned, we have to speak out and we certainly have to demonstrate that we are opposed to this kind of spending at this point in time.

I would like, for example, to find out from Hon. Senator Barrow, what is the total spending of this country on Defence and Security? I believe that it would be revealing to know what is being spent in this particular area. The people of this country, I am contending, Mr. President, need to be able to have food. They need to be able to have proper housing, just to give two examples. They do not need guns. They do not need this kind of militarism to which I have alluded. This is a matter which I believe some economist and (ASIDE) I think it was Samuelson, I believe, I will be corrected by Senator McClean if I am not correct in this, but I think it is Samuelson, the famous American economist, who described this kind of approach, particularly in developing countries as the guns and butter technique where developing countries seem to have the tendency to expend large sums of money on building up armies, Defence Forces and those kind of military institutions and I will tell you what you will find.

You will find that in almost all of these countries, almost across Africa, Latin America and right in the Caribbean you have seen very clear evidence of where

this kind of approach in matters of national import can lead. Who can remember, for example, Trinidad in 1970? Who can remember, I believe it was in 1980, Suriname? One has only, for example, to mention these two areas to illustrate the point which I am making. But one can mention numerous other examples in Africa and Latin America to substantiate this particular point. What I am saying is that we have to become very concerned about this particular matter.

I believe that the Democratic Labour Party believes that it is a misdirection in the allocation of our scarce resources and we cannot in all sincerity to ourselves and to common sense support this kind of expenditure, particularly at this time and particularly coming, as we can now look back on it and the situation which has been revealed by the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, the economic situation which has been revealed by the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister and which was further exposed by the leading spokesman for the Opposition on financial matters yesterday afternoon in the Lower House.

Senator Barrow referred to the construction or the remodelling of the Baggage Warehouse. I have a question to ask on this because I think it demonstrates the confusion that there is in the Government and the agencies of Government. I believe that it is known that the Board of Tourism is in some dispute with the Central Government over the taking over of the Baggage Warehouse by the Government and it again displays an attitude and approach which this Government applies in matters with which it is dealing.

My understanding is that the Baggage Warehouse or that area which is being taken over was at one time either the property of or owned or controlled by the old Publicity Committee which was replaced by the Tourist Board. The Tourist Board or the Board of Tourism took over the responsibility for this and the Government, as I understand it, the Central Government, was in communication with the Board of Tourism on this particular matter, about the takeover, but before a proper arrangement could be arrived at between the Board and the Central Government, my understanding is that the Government went ahead and started to do a demolition job on some of the buildings. I understand that this has caused some concern at the Board of Tourism. But, it just goes to show the kind of effect which these attitudes and this high handed approach about which I have been talking all evening, the kind of effect which these can have on matters that the Government has to deal with, from time to time.

As I said, I did not intend to be long on this, I am particularly conscious of the time and I must confess that I am a little tired now after a long day's work. It is a pity that this did not come earlier, but I just want to indicate that we certainly will be voting against what we

consider to be this kind of luxury on defence spending at this time. Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I just wanted to say, although I agree with him that everybody is tired, I hope I did not mislead the hon. member into making a speech shorter than he otherwise would have. I now understand that we can stay a little bit longer without creating problems with the staff.

SENATOR M. C. C. WARD: Mr. President, it is regrettable, the contribution which has just been made by the Senator. In one part of his speech he refers to the problems in South America, Central America and the Caribbean, that they are countries which are buying arms and so on, and then he condemns the Barbados Government for having a Coast Guard. As soon as we won the Government in 1976 the first thing that occurred was that we got mixed up in the Cubana affair, which was to do with the Cubans in Florida and the dispute with Cuba. Eventually a bomb was put on board a plane here in Barbados which could have gone off at the airport. Soon after that, there was the Alleyne Affair when a prominent member of the Democratic Labour Party, who obviously took matters in his own hands, was not satisfied with the decision of the electorate and said he would form an army. People would come to Barbados. A woman was known to come to Barbados and survey the St. John coast so that people could land there. Certain big names in the Democratic Labour Party entered into political affairs, names were found in notebooks. After that there was what took place in Grenada where influence from Cuba supported a revolution in that country. Then you found that there were mercenaries in New Orleans who were going there to overthrow Miss Charles' democratically elected Government, and because we have developed a Coast Guard — in fact, we came and found two vessels there, regarded as Coast Guard vessels. They were Coast Guard vessels then, but now we do it they are battleships. Next he will call them aircraft carriers because they have two pelican lights on the decks.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I think the word he actually used was "warship".

SENATOR M. C. C. WARD: Mr. President, he then says that this money could be used for social services. He is absolutely correct but only if we live in an ideal situation. He has already stated that other places have arms. If the entire Caribbean was free of arms, of course we would put it in housing. We would not need the money, we would not have borrowed the money in the first place, but we are surrounded by various little hostilities breaking out — Suriname, our colleagues in Belize are having trouble down there now with Guatemala, we had trouble in St. Vincent where people tried to take over one or two small islands — we are living in that type of world that we have not selected. The Hon. Senator Jones

would be able to give you some religious background as to what is happening in the area. Must we bury our heads in the sand and assume that nothing is taking place?

I supported Senator Hall earlier tonight. He made an ideal contribution, but this is absolute nonsense that was just said. He said that the Party decided it, so they came down here to vote against it. He is not listening to wisdom in here, he cannot even be converted or convinced about anything intelligent in a debate like this. He has come pre-arranged to vote against it.

He says that the Barbados Government in a high-handed way took over an office at the Pierhead. Mr. President, before the Deep Water Harbour was built the big cruise ships went in there when they used to anchor in Carlisle Bay and used their powered launches. They had an office put there which used to give out publicity material, brochures showing you where to shop and that sort of thing, but that office has not been used for years by them. No cruise ships anchor off there any more, the last cruise ship to anchor there was the "France" because it had a deep draught, but that, I believe, was disposed of in Japan for making cars. There are no ships any more that would need to come into Carlisle Bay, all would come in at the Deep Water Harbour, so therefore the office is of absolutely no use. We have had nothing to do with it, it was turned over to the Harbour Police long ago, but it is a high-handed act to take it over, like it was not built on Government land. It was a waste of time to mention these things, but he has come with an instruction to put up a case, and puts up this shameful and disgraceful argument here today about warships.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. President, on a point of order. With all due respect to the Hon. Senator, Sir, I would like him to withdraw the remark about my contribution being shameful and disgraceful. I consider it to be unparliamentary.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Do you consider shameful and disgraceful to be unparliamentary?

SENATOR M. C. C. WARD: Mr. President, I am absolutely certain that the Government of which I have the honour to be part would never use money in this way if it were not absolutely necessary to do so.

SENATOR D. A. C. SIMMONS: Just a short contribution, Mr. President. I wish to respond not so much to what the Hon. Senator Greaves has said, that has been answered largely by Senator Ward, but rather to look at the position of his Party since he has outlined to us the stance of his Party in relation to this question of the Defence Force.

As I understand it, Sir, the Coast Guard was first thought of and implemented by the Democratic Labour

Party. It was their thing. The justification given for it by the now Leader of the Opposition, the Rt. Hon. E. W. Barrow, was that it was necessary for Barbados as a result of certain international air traffic agreements to have a Coast Guard and to have it sited at the base at Enterprise which was two or three miles away from Grantley Adams Airport. I have heard him say that several times when I was in the Other Place.

Now, after the passage of time when the original equipment of the Coast Guard has proven itself less than satisfactory, indeed, has been so unsatisfactory as to give stomach convulsions to Mr. Al Gilkes coming back from St. Vincent some years ago, when after a period of years it is well expected that marine vessels will be in need of refurbishing and that in any event the equipment which the Barbados Government originally had is no longer able to cope with the demands that are being made, when in those circumstances the Government takes a position to update its equipment and to have equipment that can service all the various needs of the people of Barbados, you still find that the Democratic Labour Party is able to criticise something of which they were the authors, then it seems to me that the thinking of the Democratic Labour Party is confused because I have heard Senator Greaves say that one could, for instance, utilise some of this money in the provision of more food. I have heard Senator Hall on another occasion speak about the need to control drugs, marijuana and so on coming into this country, so that in their own thoughts they are conscious of the fact that this country is being threatened, the social fabric is being threatened by an infiltration or it is probably a deluge of drugs, and that we need to feed the population properly.

As I understood the need for the Coast Guard to the people of Barbados, the Coast Guard is going to be of assistance in the prevention of smuggling, and there is no doubt that drugs are smuggled into Barbados both through the Airport and in little boats that come off the coast. The police have evidence of that. At the same time this country went to great length, I think it was in 1977, to extend the International Economic zone, I think it is called, the twelve mile limit in pursuance of what is happening at the Law of the Sea Conference and so on. But even though we have extended the limit, we cannot keep out the Japanese trawlers which come down and fish in our waters and deny the people of Barbados perhaps an additional source of protein. If the Coast Guard is going to assist the better policing of the twelve mile limit and keep out the Japanese who do not give us anything in any event — we get no aid from them at all but they take our fish — if the Coast Guard is going to be effective in controlling the smuggling of drugs, and if we are concerned about the moral health and welfare of this society as well as its physical health and welfare, and if the warship spoken of would have capacity for 200 persons in the event of an air disaster and to that extent we are fulfilling an obligation under the International Air

Traffic Agreement, then surely there is much of merit in Barbados having a basic Coast Guard structure sufficient to satisfy the needs of the territory and to some extent to allow for cooperation with places like St. Vincent and St. Lucia who, I believe, might be party to some regional defence force.

In terms of this particular Resolution, Sir, as it appears to me, Senator Greaves has perhaps again been confused and so has his party because the argument as put forward by him tonight seems to suggest that all of a sudden the money we are asked to vote on the Resolution that we are asked to concur in rather, is new money which could be used for housing or be used for the provision of food. I do not understand the Resolution that way, and if I am wrong I would be grateful if Senator Barrow in his reply would correct my misconception. But, as I understand it, way back on the 21st December, 1979, and certainly on the 18th June, 1980, when no one would deny, including members of the Opposition, that the economic health of Barbados was certainly far better than it is tonight, the Barbados Government was committed to a programme with Brooke Marine and Swan Hunter for equipping the Coast Guard properly. As I understand it, all that has happened since that original contractual commitment is that it has been found not only by reason of inflation but also by reason of defects in certain of the vessels and so on that the original contract sum was insufficient, and as I understand it, I may be wrong or I may be stupid or both, but, as I understand it, we are being asked virtually to concur in an over-run on an original contract which was entered into at a time when the country's economic position was better than it is tonight, and this is not being brought here, as I understand it, for the very first time, and the Government asked to look to spend \$12 million or \$14 million in equipping a Defence Force from the beginning. Nothing like that.

Speaking of the resources for equipping the Defence Force as it appears to me, Sir, whatever money is spent for the initial equipping of the Coast Guard section of the Defence Force is more or less a once for all sum. If you have to spend \$14 million to have a basic minimum Defence Force, then you spend it. Thereafter you have certain yearly recurring expenditure. I do not think that even the Opposition's position is that every year you will be asked to spend \$14 million or \$15 million on the Defence Force. If it were so, then it would be a serious question in my mind about supporting this. It is not like that and the Senator I believe to be intelligent enough to know that. At least he has had the experience in the Other Place where some of these matters of the Defence Force were ventilated, but I just wanted to get my understanding clear that what we are being asked to do tonight is to concur in passing additional money to the original contract sum because of a number of circumstances, including inflation, and I am satisfied with the

Addendum. These increases happen from time to time. Even in the Barbados Workers' Union the dues have been increased, as Senator Greaves well knows.

SENATOR W. W. HALL: Mr. President, I really have no difficulty. I am not going to be involved in any semantics either. I personally feel that the Democratic Labour Party is not really against the Defence Force *per se* because the concept taken by them on the question is simply this that we do not like the direction it has taken. It is as simple as that, as far as I know.

I am not going to dwell too long on it because I am cognisant of the fact that most Senators are tired or sleepy but I would just like to say this, that the Defence Force in any country must be carefully watched. I well remember in 1970 the events that took place in Trinidad. As a matter of fact, Sir, I recall quite vividly when the co-founder of SERVOL in Laventille, a depressed area, where people are conditioned to failure, and where the seeds of anything revolutionary are sewn and, Sir, we felt that what we should do would be to approach the Government to help us in a better way of life for those depressed people.

At that time, Sir, we were not given much help in terms of money but I recall that the Defence Force sent 12 soldiers when I was about to leave Trinidad to help in the SERVOL programme, not only in farms, not only in the field of physical education, but in acquiring skills. The soldiers taught the young people of the area skills. I am aware that it will be said that in St. Lucy there are young soldiers being taught skills. That is within the Defence Force. I am talking about imparting that knowledge to people who are in need of it throughout the length and breadth of Barbados. That is what I am talking about.

It was not always so in Trinidad where people believed in helping the people in depressed areas. There was a time when these bright boys from Sandhurst, when they became disillusioned with the Government of the day, simply tried to overthrow it. It is as simple as that, Sir, and that is why I personally believe in this as a matter of conscience. I have nothing to do with anybody else. It is as simple as that. I say so, that as far as I am concerned I do not like the direction, Sir, and who does not like it can lump it.

I feel, Sir, that when these things are being discussed, as the goodly Reverend so ably expounded this afternoon, it seems to me that it is purely on a party basis. I have been in this Hon. Chamber before and I have had on many occasions, as an Independent Senator, to speak on this sort of thing. It is right, regardless of whatever you say, and it is wrong, regardless of whatever you say. I am not interested in that sort of thing, Sir. This

is another national issue, the Defence Force, I am not kidding, Sir. This is a serious business.

I feel, Sir, that what we have got to look at is the image that is projected by our Defence Force. Only the other day it had to go and help with fires in Bridgetown. Yes, I was there. I say it like if we did not have a Fire Service. Sir, there might have been reasons for that. I do not know.

We had a situation, Sir, where the Hon. Leader of this Chamber said it is a fast patrol boat. My illustrious colleague is saying that it is a warship. It is up to you to tell us. I want to know how much it cost, too, because if it is merely a fast patrol boat it should not be any secret, whatever it costs, Sir. I think that the people of this country would like to know. It is simple. They would just like to know exactly what these things cost and when I say that I feel that I am not only saying that for myself but that I am saying that for the entire populace.

As I said before, it really does not bother me what anybody on this side or on that side says. I will not in the five years be scared of anybody in here.

I will be very respectful to the Chair. I will tell you that but it does not make any sense when I get up to talk anybody just trying to think that they are going to have me hamstrung into talking stupidity or sitting down. I, Mr. President, with all due respect to the Chair, will say what I have to say and then sit down. If it is too late, Sir, well let us all go home but I think that it is folly.

It is puerile and totally uncalled for to think that they can just heckle people into just sitting down or saying something contrary to what their beliefs are. I am not really going to get too much involved in that anyhow.

Sir, we are thinking at a time where the national debt has risen alarmingly. I would like to know what the cost of the fast patrol boat is so that we can all determine whether, in these times of economic crisis, the direction to purchase these things for the Coast Guard is right. (ASIDES). I thought somebody was addressing the Chair, Sir.

The only other thing that I would like to say here is that I would like to be critical of the presentation any way, Sir, because as I look at it, it seems to me that the money is presented in pounds sterling. Perhaps it could be easy for all Barbadians to put it down in Barbadian dollars. Even in the Addendum, Sir, some of the money is quoted in U.S. money.

In negotiation terms, Sir, sometimes if you are going to say \$500.00 a month, it may be better for nego-

tiation purposes to say \$6,000 a year because it sounds better and I am just wondering, Sir, what is the real reason. I am just asking a simple question, Sir, what is the real reason for this type of presentation because it would be rather easier for everyone concerned if it was just put down in Barbadian dollars to let us know what the real situation is. That is the way I feel.

The Defence Force can be, or has been considered by some as the pride of the Caribbean with its sophisticated weapons and my colleague mentioned an air-conditioned coach, a plane and fast patrol boats.

I could say that you could well lay claim to that description. But, what I am asking, Sir, is if in these perilous times, economically, it can be considered sane to be honest, Sir, to get involved in this type of debt. I know that the Honourable Leader of the House will obviously have good reasons when he replies and I am looking forward very much, Sir, to hear exactly what the situation is. I would like to know what would we have to show when all of this is over because as you see, Sir, Senator Simmons alluded to the fact that in June 1980, things were better; but in June 1981 everyone in this Honourable Chamber knows that everyone in Barbados was told that things were great too, so there is no big thing. Everyone here knows that in June we were told that we never had it so good.

I would also say that the spokesman for the Democratic Labour Party on financial affairs has gone on record as saying that, by this time, September, the situation would not have been so rosy. That is a fact and for this, I would say he was subjected to grave vilification in front of all and sundry on TV. All I can say is the public will judge whether there is an economic squeeze or crisis or whether we are still having it good and, in that vein, I question the wisdom of Barbadian money being tied up at this stage, in fact borrowing this type of money because it would seem to me to be in the region of about \$2 million, I am subject to correction, but it would seem that it had been put down in Barbadian money I would not have to calculate it, that is a fact, so therefore if it is not \$2 million, well, it is not my fault.

Sir, seriously, I believe that for those reasons I cannot support this resolution. Irrespective of what anybody says about coming in here predestined or not, I would tell you this that there is nobody alive, dead or going to die that will have me predestined and, as far as I am concerned, I have looked at it and I am not at all satisfied that the direction is the right one. As a consequence, I will have no other alternative but to vote against this resolution.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator McClean.

SENATOR A. W. A. McCLEAN: Thank you, Mr. President. Senator Hall enquired as to why the resolution had the loan denominated in pounds. I think this is because the loan will be in pounds. When you borrow money internationally, you have to borrow it in some currency or the other and in this instance the money is borrowed in pounds meaning that you have to repay it in pounds, so that over the next 11 years when you pay back month by month or year by year, you will have to pay it back in pounds in respect of what the value of the pound is from time to time and if there is anything which can be said against this resolution, it is that at the moment, the value of the pound is particularly low vis-a-vis our currency and the US dollar and if one makes a judgment that it is at rock bottom at the moment and will only rise, it would mean that sterling would not be a good currency to borrow in at the moment because you would make something like a capital loss when it should rise. So that, if one could have made an alternative arrangement for this amount of money, let us say in terms of dollars, at this point in time, it might have been more advantageous to Barbados to forego borrowing from Lloyds and so on and borrow from some other financial institution, an equivalent amount denominated in US dollars, so that when the pound rises, you would not be caught in that situation of borrowing money which converts at \$3.60 or whatever, and then repaying at \$4.80 or whatever. So, that would be the only specific criticism I can see that one can reasonably make against supporting this resolution.

The types of arguments which you have had about the dangers of a standing army and so on are perhaps well taken, but they do not speak to the essence of this resolution and I think it is not good enough basically to make points which may be in themselves quite reasonable, but essentially, in consequence to the particular argument, use that as a base for saying you are not supporting the particular resolution. Here, the essence of this resolution, as clearly indicated by Senator Simmons and Honourable Senator Barrow, is that Government has entered into certain contractual obligations in relation to certain goods and services. They anticipated at the time they entered into to them that they would have to borrow a certain amount of money to finance those projects. That amount has been underestimated and so more money has to be provided and, presumably, since it is in relation to certain capital projects, so to speak, it is desirable that this portion of it should be provided in terms of some medium type loan.

The issue here is not whether or not the army should turn out at fires because I agree that armies should not turn out at fires as a matter of course. The issue is not whether or not people are taking the wrong direction in terms of the development of the overall army, or indeed the Coast Guard for that matter. This

is a much narrower topic and indeed, even if one wants to ventilate certain feelings on the wider aspect of the image of the army and so on, he can do it, but that should not be the basis for voting against a resolution such as this. Oppositions must recognise that they blunt the effectiveness of their opposition to certain measures when they willy-nilly vote against everything.

Thank you, Mr. President. (APPLAUSE)

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Barrow.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. President, Senator McClean has explained more calmly and as fully as is possible the reason for the currency denomination used in the Addendum to this resolution and I hope therefore, that Senator Hall now understands the point. I think he does, Sir. (ASIDES) That disposes, Sir, of the first point to which I would have needed to reply.

In relation to the point made by Senator McClean about borrowing, say, from a dollar source and paying off, I think he himself knows, Sir, that that would depend on a number of factors:

1. Whether you do honestly and with good reason estimate that the pound is down, I believe at \$3.68 as opposed to \$4.68 when this contract was negotiated, if you honestly and accurately — it is not so much honestly, the honesty does not matter, it is the accuracy estimate that it is as low down as it would be because.....(ASIDES).....I am sorry, Sir, if I am giving aid and comfort to anybody when I said that honesty does not matter, it does not matter in this particular circumstance — because if you honestly but wrongly assess what is going to happen, you can put yourself in a lot of trouble.

I am very glad to see that Senator Greaves does have a memory.

The next thing, Sir, is that it is something I know at least one land developer in Barbados is doing, that is to borrow pounds and then when the pound dipped a few years ago and it went all the way down to \$3.30 he borrowed dollars and paid off the debt, and made some money on it. I am aware that that has happened, so I am not unfamiliar with it. Of course, with the amount of money of this size, Government would also have to contend with current interest rates, so that in refinancing you might get stuck with the interest rates at a level which would certainly not make it worth your while, so here is another point.

There was another point, Sir, I think made by both Senator Greaves and Senator Hall, the point about "at this time". Senator Simmons, I thought, was going to spell out the point in detail, because I think it needs to be spelt out in detail. I think if they fully understood what they were saying they would not have made the point about "at this time". If we do not borrow the additional money, we abandon the contract. This does not mean that we are not stuck with the liabilities, all that it would mean is that we do not get the benefits which we went into the contract to get in the first place. In other words, Sir, it would be the act of a fool, and I am sure that if either Senator Greaves or Senator Hall understood that at first they would not be advocating a course of action such as not supporting the loan at this time.

The loan has already been negotiated. I was at pains in my opening remarks to point out that there are certain cost overruns, and I gave the reasons, I gave the details and I am quite ready to give more if necessary, and for that reason an addition to the loan had to be negotiated, and that is what we are asking sanction for. The effect of not supporting the Resolution is to say that we should take the money already negotiated and pour it down the drain. Such as you had, let it go.

Mr. President, I do not think that that can be described as anything but a most cynical attitude, and I will tell you why, Sir. I have to take issue with Senator Simmons, incidentally, who said that the reason for our purchasing these Coast Guard boats and adapting them, and so on, is that the Coast Guard equipment which we found is not now suitable. Senator Simmons is grossly misinformed. It was never suitable, Sir. The George Fergusson was a 65 foot boat, the Commander Marshall, the T.T. Lewis and one other were 40 foot boats, and not one of these boats was suitable. This is the deplorable fact, that we hear not at this time from people who spent a considerable amount of money on four Coast Guard boats. It is true that we are buying five, it is also true that we are spending the money against the best available advice, and seeking to purchase the kind of equipment that is suitable for our purposes. What, in the first place, was the point of buying the George Fergusson, which is a boat designed to sail in calm waters, like the waters of a lake? We are talking about the Caribbean Sea. Is that a lake in any real sense? You buy boats to sail on a lake. It is like the little boy with his paper boat on a pond, but it was a lot of the taxpayers' money, you know, Sir. A whole lot of the taxpayers' money was just simply taken and thrown down the drain.

Another aspect of it, again significant expenditure, which had already been incurred on the Coast Guard Headquarters. This is the other thing we are also building. The point I want to make, Sir, is that it is really not

open to people whose political allies, then as now – I believe, Sir, that it is accurate to say that they were Senator Greaves' political allies then as now – and that it is accurate to say that they were Senator Hall's then as now. I believe so. Sir, a lot of money has been spent in setting out to build the Coast Guard Headquarters and building a beach. (SENATOR M. C. C. WARD: In the middle of a road). In the middle of a road.

The point is, Sir, that, had the money been wisely spent in the first place, the taxpayers would not now be concerned with what expenditure there is on the Coast Guard, because we would not be buying five boats, we would only need to produce one in order to have a fleet of five, and we would not now have to be looking for new Coast Guard Headquarters. If it is bad to spend this money, the people who have to take the responsibility for it are the people who bought the George Fergusson, the Commander Marshall and the T.T. Lewis in the first place, and the people who built Miami beach, and I do not see how representatives of that institution, the George Street institution, can therefore come in here and argue, not now, not now. I do not know what you mean.

Senator Hall is talking about what the DLP spokesman on financial affairs said, that by this time of the year things would not be so good. This is pure crystal ball foolishness. Nobody at the time when the DLP spokesman was talking could have accurately, honestly or otherwise forecast the ruin of the sugar crop. Let us call a spade a spade. How did he know the sugar crop was going to fail? I am not suggesting, Sir, that a fall-off in tourist arrivals does not affect us. I am not indeed suggesting anything of that sort, but the single thing that has hit us, the blow in the economy that we are feeling now, and I challenge anybody to deny it, is the \$43 million loss in a 9% value added industry. That is a more damaging blow than anything else that we have felt. How could Dr. Haynes or anybody else gaze into his crystal ball and forecast that that was going to happen? Sir, there is a limit.

What I am saying, Sir, is that on this Resolution we have heard one set of nonsense about the Board of Tourism. Why doesn't Senator Greaves quarrel then because the Board of Tourism has been given a building to use there on the Harbour Road, if he is going to quarrel about everything? They quarrel about the Government using its property at the Baggage Warehouse, quarrel about that too. (SENATOR GREAVES: Next time). If you think I don't believe you, you are mistaken.

He wants to know, Sir, how much money is being spent on defence. I used to believe that the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure was a document of the House. I used to believe that those documents had to be laid in here, that the Appropriation Bill had to become law be-

fore the 31st March each year. He wants to know, Sir, the Senator who has been in Parliament for over ten years.

Then there is the other point. Senator Hall does not like the direction the Defence Force is taking. Now Senator Hall when he was talking about the Servol training project in Trinidad and Tobago it seemed to me, I was not too sure whether he was criticising it or not, I was not too sure because, while I got the impression he was speaking of it with some favour, he was at the same time saying he does not like the direction the Defence Force is taking. The most significant thing about the direction the Defence Force is taking is the emphasis on imparting skills to the young.

The other thing is that Senator McClean says he does not like the Defence Force at fires. He does not like them going to people after hurricanes either? Let us look at this thing in some overall way. I do not like this, I do not like that. There was only one man carrying a gun the night down by the fire, but I did not like that either. Look at the thing overall. What is the overall impact? Do we get the impression that the Defence Force is one of these examples of extreme militarism or do we get the feeling that a whole number of young persons are being afforded an opportunity to be taught skills, let us deal with it, and to make some contribution to their country they come out very willingly and do a good job after people's roofs are blown off and houses are blown down and so on? Not so long before that fire in town that caused so much excitement, there was the fire on Bay Street where they were passing coming back from somewhere and they went into the house and I think there was a child that was saved, dragged out by a member of the Defence Force. I find with the poor Defence Force that we can get off its back for a little while. I believe, Sir, that just like in the police force a number of members come from St. Philip, in the Defence Force a lot of members come from St. Lucy. That has been a historical fact with the police force. I believe if Senator Greaves was not so hard against the police force today he might not be a Senator. I was referring really to St. Philip South.

The point here, Sir, anyhow is that I do not think Senator Hall could talk about supporting the whole Servol training concept and then training is such a high component in the Defence Force activity talking about militarism and that sort of thing, and this thing about perilous times I really cannot quite understand. I would like to remind Senator Hall of one thing. The Senator's feathers moved in 1970 and it was the Coast Guard that shot away the bridge and prevented the revolution from succeeding. Those who may wish to see the Government removed by force I am dealing with recorded fact, I am not dealing with any on the site observation, it is a fact though, Sir, and I am not referring to people in this Chamber, let us be quite clear on this, those who might

wish to see the Government removed other than by the ballot box have an interest perhaps after 1970 in Trinidad to ensure we do not have a Coast Guard, but I see it, Sir, as a very simple matter. I do not want to expand into the area of the whys and wherefores because we have already contracted. We either do a foolish thing and say let the money go or we do the sensible thing and face the comparatively small increase towards the overall contract which is involved here. I do not think there is any real choice.

The other point, Sir, is a point which I believe needs to be stressed before I sit down. Had the money on the Coast Guard been properly spent in the first place when the Coast Guard was established, we would not now be debating this Resolution. But the initial approach to the Coast Guard was misguided, the equipment bought was wrong and as a result we are all paying for it now by considering this extension of the loan and, in fact, by having had to have a main loan in the first place. I believe, Sir, that, once Senator Hall and Senator Greaves think of the fact that that is why we have this Resolution before us, once they think of that and once they also think of Senator Hunte and Senator Connell, the dilemma will remain.

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

AYES: Senator the Hon. N. A. BARROW; Senator the Hon. O'B. TROTMAN; Senator C. A. GRIFFITH; Senator M. C. C. WARD; Senator K. A. ROUSE; Senator J. E. D. WILLIAMS; Senator D. A. C. SIMMONS; Senator Mrs. M. O. REECE; Senator C.D. SEALE; Senator the Rev. Canon I. McK. JONES; Senator A. W. A. McCLEAN; Senator Mrs. E. M. LYNCH and Senator J. C. W. WICKHAM — 13.

NOES: Senator W. W. HALL and Senator E. E. GREAVES — 2.

THE ADJOURNMENT

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. President, I beg to move that the Senate do now adjourn until this day week at 2. 30 p.m.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Just before I put the question on the adjournment, I would like to repeat what I said earlier on, that we have just started a new Parliament, a new Session, and I really hope that we can develop in this Chamber a temperate atmosphere as free as possible from adversary politics. I think we can manage to keep a sense of camaraderie going even though we differ on various

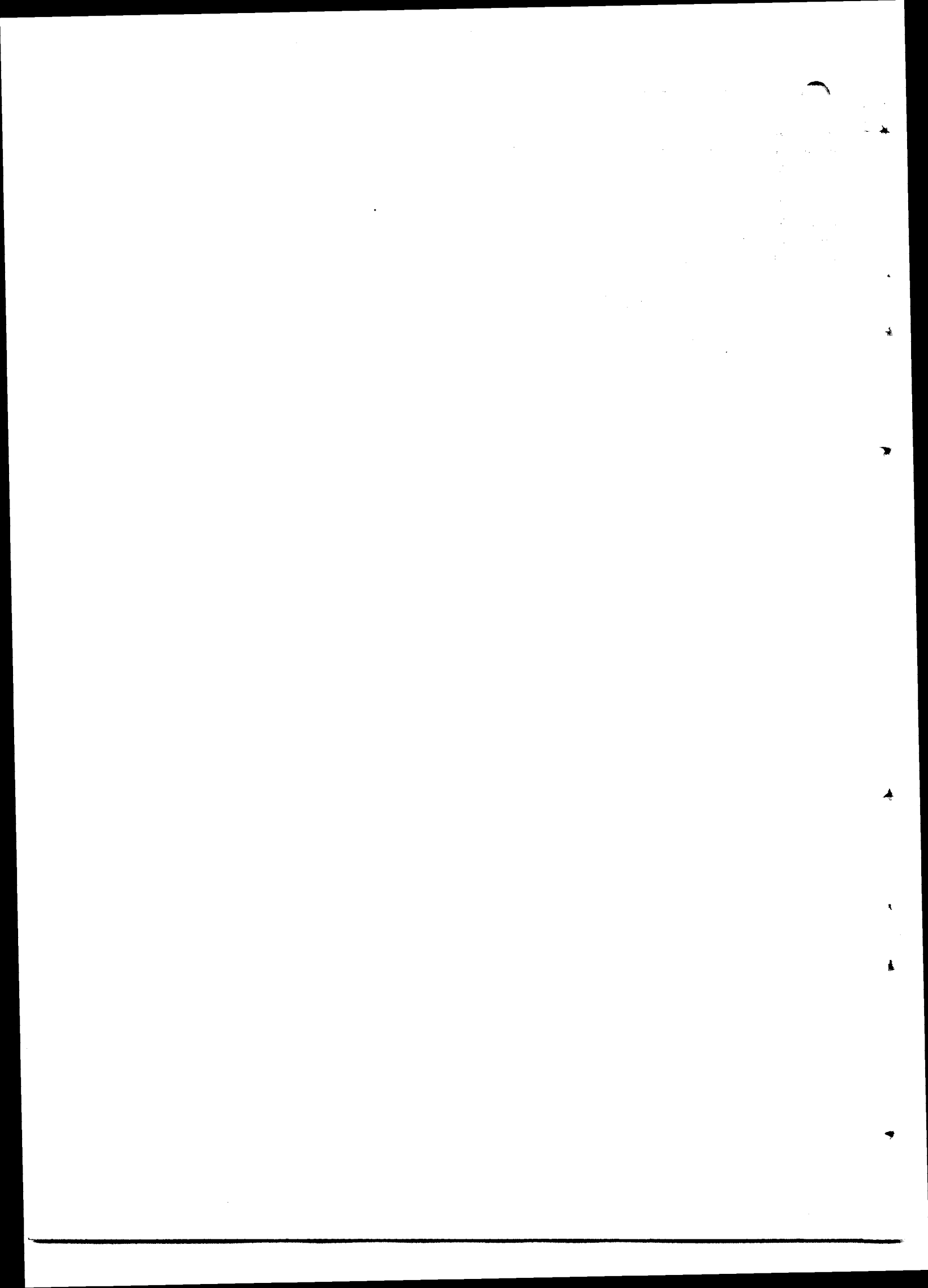
points, and if we keep our sense of humour, we can manage to preserve an agreeable atmosphere in this Chamber.

The second point I would like to make is that I have allowed a considerable amount of latitude for members finding their feet and that sort of thing, but I would not like it to be felt that that is going to continue

for any considerable length of time. We have some Rules and we will have to stick to them.

The question that the Senate adjourn until Wednesday, 23rd September, 1981 at 2. 30 p.m. was put to the Senate and agreed to, and Mr. President adjourned the Senate accordingly.

10.00 p.m.



THE SENATE DEBATES

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

FIRST SESSION 1981 – 86

THE SENATE

Wednesday, 23rd September, 1981.

The Senate met in the Senate Chamber, Public Buildings on Wednesday September 23, 1981, at 2.35 p.m., today.

PRESENT

His Honour Senator the Honourable Sir ARNOTT CATO, M.B., Ch.B., LL.D., (President); 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 H. R. LINTON, LL.B.; Senator Mrs. E. M. LYNCH, B.A., G.C.M.; Senator J. E. D. WILLIAMS; Senator D. A. C. SIMMONS, LL.M.; Senator Miss J. CLARKE; Senator M. C. C. WARD; Senator StC. E. HOWELL; Senator Mrs. M. O. REECE; Senator E. E. GREAVES, B.A., Ed.M.; Senator W. W. HALL; Senator A. W. A. McCLEAN; Senator C. D. SEALE; Senator the Rev. Can. I. McK. JONES and Senator K. A. ROUSE.

Prayers were read by Rev. Can. I. McK. JONES.

ABSENT

Senators: The Hon. O'BRIEN TROTMAN, C. I. E. DEANE, C. A. GRIFFITH, and Mrs. G. G. READER.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY HIS HONOUR THE PRESIDENT

Mr. PRESIDENT: I regret to have to inform members that Senator Deane is ill again in Hospital. I know that members will join with me in wishing him a speedy recovery.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. President, I have the honour to introduce the following:—

Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at My Lord's Hill, St. Michael.

Resolution to regrade the post of Executive Personal Secretary to the Prime Minister.

Resolution to approve Leave Passages (Amendment) Order, 1981.

A Bill to repeal the Estate Duty Act Cap. 70.

A Bill to amend the Banking Act Cap. 322.

A Resolution to authorize the Minister responsible for Finance to borrow by issue of Treasury Bills further sums not exceeding one hundred million dollars and such sums as may be required to pay off at maturity bills already lawfully issued and outstanding.

Sir, I believe that it is appropriate at this stage to indicate that the Resolution concerning the issue of Treasury Bills is an urgent matter. It has been with the Clerk from yesterday and technically therefore it can be proceeded with today and I crave the indulgence of my colleagues and Senators that we should deal with it today and get it out of the way.

Mr. PRESIDENT: You will call the Resolution for Treasury Bills as the first Order of the day.

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORISE THE MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR FINANCE TO BORROW BY ISSUE OF TREASURY BILLS FURTHER SUMS NOT EXCEEDING ONE HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS AND SUCH SUMS AS MAY BE REQUIRED TO PAY OFF AT MATURITY BILLS ALREADY LAWFULLY ISSUED AND OUTSTANDING

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. President, Sir, as the Resolution which has been in circulation indicates, under our laws, specifically Cap. 106, there are limits which are placed on the borrowing of Treasury

Bills and therefore a Resolution has to be introduced into both Houses of Parliament to authorize the issue of Treasury Bills and as in this case to authorize exceeding the legal limit on Treasury Bills.

In the Other Place, there is, Sir, a debate currently going on on the state of the economy and members in this Honourable Chamber are no doubt aware that, particularly resulting from the sugar short-fall, there is bound at this point in time to be a certain scarcity of liquidity in the public coffers.

Secondly, Sir, the Government's receipts are not normally at a very high level during this time of the year and this year is no exception. They tend to pick up some time after September. The issue of Treasury Bills is usually done for two purposes one of which is to reduce the liquidity in the economy by getting banks to purchase paper and the other to provide some liquidity for Government to carry on its day-to-day business.

The advisers to Government ever since we were seised of the impact of the present economic situation have been looking at various measures and one of the measures which has had to be decided on, Sir, one I think everybody knows is the rescheduling, as far as possible, of public projects. But, another of the measures has had to be recourse to borrowings and the issue of Treasury Bills is a form of borrowing.

Mr. President, I would wish to say more, but the file, I was trying to locate the file. This matter was brought to the Other place last night, and dealt with there, as a result of which, I have to speak without benefit of the file. In the event that there is any specific matter, a question anyone wishes to elicit, I can only trust, Sir, that the file does turn up, although, I have not a great expectation that it will be found within a matter of an hour or so. I was apprised of the urgency of this matter and need to deal with it, somewhat after midday and I did ask the officer concerned if he would try and trace the file for us so that we would have the benefit of it.

The reasons, Sir, as I intimated before are really quite clear and, therefore, I did not think that there was anything to stop us proceeding with it.

I move that the Senate do now concur in this resolution.

Mr. PRESIDENT: First of all, I take it that Honourable Members have agreed, that although it is not on the Order Paper, they would wish to proceed with it today.

It is proposed that the Senate concur in this resolution. Senator Greaves.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. President, I think you could understand my predicament having been faced with this situation, as soon as I arrived in this Honourable Chamber and I would just like to urge that the Honourable Leader of the Senate defer this matter until later on, so that I can do some consultation on it, because I have not even had an opportunity to look at the document which has been circulated.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator McClean you were wishing to speak before Senator Barrow answers?

SENATOR A. W. A. McCLEAN: Mr. President, I could speak after the proposal has been resolved in terms of whether we defer it until later.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Pardon me.

SENATOR A. W. A. McCLEAN: I would be willing to speak after Senator Barrow has responded to Senator Greaves' proposal.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Seale.

SENATOR C. D. SEALE: Sir, just as a point of explanation, Sir. The Central Bank has requested banks to move their reserves up from 18% to 25% and this resolution gives effect to that, in that the banks would have, in order to comply with that regulation, would have to buy Treasury Bills, Sir, and as the Treasury Bills are already at their limit, it is necessary to raise the limit up. This is the reason really for this resolution.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Ward.

SENATOR M. C. C. WARD: Mr. President, in view of the fact that the Honourable Minister has said that there is a file containing certain information which is not available, I do not think it an unreasonable request of Senator Greaves, Sir, that this be deferred. Not of course to go through what we went through last Wednesday when we were kept in here until 10.00 o'clock without dinner or anything like this, but I believe there are grounds where the Honourable Minister if he does feel that the file would give more information to the Honourable Senate, there is a good case for deferring this matter until another hour or so.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Barrow.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. President, let me make it quite clear. I do not believe that there is anybody sitting around this table who could have expected that, within a week or so, whether it was going to be last week, or this week, a resolution of this sort would not have been before this Honourable Senate and therefore, I think we are only joking if we start talking about certain requests being reasonable. All

of us must have expected it, but, I do not particularly — in other words, while I am prepared to defer until land acquisitions resolutions are through — I am not, Sir, prepared to defer until another meeting unless Honourable Members want to come back on Friday and deal with it because I have already intimated that.... Sir, I have the file, so we can defer until after the next two or three items and that would give Senator Greaves adequate time for consultations and so on.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I myself feel that if Honourable Members have not had sufficient time..... Order, order, order. I was saying, my own feeling is that if Honourable Members complain that they have not had sufficient time to look at an important resolution like this, there is no harm in deferring further consideration until later in the meeting.

Is it your pleasure that further consideration of this resolution be postponed until later in the day? (PAUSE)

Call the next order..

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

Item No. 1 was called — to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Rockley, Christ Church, for provision of a beach facility and accommodation for beach vendors.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Barrow.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. President, this is something which has been around for quite some time. I believe that the file will indicate that the first request dates back to 25th February, 1971 and back and forth for some ten years, there has gone the argument, not questioning the desirability of having the facility, but indeed, questioning how one might have a facility without there being any undesirable effect, given that it is an area prone to flooding and so on, and so, we find, Sir, that while there has been a firm decision taken at one point that such a facility would not be erected, in February or March, 1980 a decision was taken to provide such a facility because of the need for wash rooms and related facilities on a beach which was used by, it is believed, half of all Barbadians and half of all visitors, a beach where the absence of such facilities has led, indeed, to the improper use of the hut which Parks and Beaches had there to house their tools. It was decided that appropriate soil absorption tests be carried out to ascertain the best method for dealing with the disposal of wastage and sewage and that, consequent upon these tests, there should be purchased land for such a facility.

What we have before us therefore, Sir, is a Resolution which is to give effect to the results of that decision, which decision indeed was reviewed this year, at the beginning of the year, January this year, when the results of the tests and so on were known and it was decided that an area of land a little bit bigger should be purchased, and also that, whereas the Town Planner at first wanted the facility located in a particular spot, the circumstances now justified its location in a slightly different spot.

The matter, Sir, is really not at all controversial and I urge its support. Accordingly, I move the Senate do concur in this Resolution.

SENATOR C. D. SEALE: Sir, as I rise to make my maiden contribution to a debate in this Hon. Chamber, I must confess that the Resolution before us has me somewhat mixed up. On the one hand I wholeheartedly support the decision of Government to provide beach facilities and beach accommodation for small vendors, beach vendors, at Rockley. Sir, however, on the other hand, I cannot bring myself to support Government purchasing additional land at this site at this time, for the simple reason that Government already owns three quarters of Rockley Beach.

Sir, if my mathematics serve me right, 5,960 square metres is approximately 64,120 square feet, and using a land value of between ten and fifteen dollars per square foot, I think that Government will have to spend between \$640,000 and \$960,000 to acquire this land. This is a lot of money to spend unnecessarily and unproductively at this time.

As I said before, I wholeheartedly support the decision of Government to provide accommodation for beach vendors at Rockley. I see it, Sir, as an example of Government's assistance to small business, and I am particularly pleased that this type of small businessman is now being recognised. For a long time in Barbados beach vendors, street vendors or hawkers have been considered as nuisances. However, they are small businessmen in their own right and should be recognised and assisted.

Sir, I believe the money earmarked for purchase of this land could well be spent in establishing a Bridgetown Small Business Development Fund to be administered by the Barbados Development Bank to assist hawkers and small businessmen in and around Bridgetown to better their facilities. The encouragement given by Government to small business over the past five years has led hundreds of individuals to get into business, and all Government has to do now is to create an environment for small business to flourish.

In Barbados we have a tourist attraction that would bring us millions maybe, or thousands of dollars in foreign exchange staring us in the face. I refer to the

street that does not sleep, Baxters Road. Baxters Road, unlike Broad Street, the preserve of the rich, Baxters Road, unlike Swan Street, the preserve of Jews, Indians and Syrians, Baxters Road is all Bajan, Sir, and if Government just took a little bit of money and spent on this road it could become a gold mine for street vendors and hawkers. Just imagine Baxters Road a mall from 9 o'clock to 5 o'clock a.m. each night. Just imagine the whole street floodlit, just imagine all the pavements put in order, just imagine the drains covered over, just imagine the type of taxi trade that a mall such as this would create. Just imagine the thousands of tourists shopping, eating or just doing their own thing, Sir, on this street each night. It would not take a lot of money from Government, and I figure that this fund that I am suggesting be set up could be used to provide interest free loans for property owners on the street, so that immediately they would renovate and paint their properties and put them in good order. At the same time Government would have to provide adequate police protection on the street so as to ensure that everything is safe.

But Baxters Road is not the only street in Bridgetown that needs development, or the only small businessman's site. Fairchild Street is crying out for help. Just imagine again, Sir, from the Charles Duncan O'Neal Bridge to a point near around the market a ring of kiosks and small shops in the perimeter of the bus stand interspersed with palm trees and beautifully landscaped and architecturally designed, providing, of course, toilet facilities for the workers. Then, Sir, even the Lower Green. Let us go down there on the same perimeter of the Lower Green and we could have kiosks, the same small shops, there again for more small businessmen, and furthermore we could roof over some of the alleys leading on to Broad Street, providing yet more small kiosks for businessmen. Then we would not have the problem of hawkers lining up on the sidewalks on Broad Street, we would not have the problem of Rastas taking over a street and looking filthy, we would have all these people set up in nice little kiosks rented with janitors and the whole set up and Bridgetown being uplifted and small business being helped.

Government spends lots of money to encourage foreigners to come to these shores to set up business, Sir. I think just a little fraction spent now on our own people in Bridgetown would go a long way to help small business and to let people do their own thing.

Sir, I go back to Baxters Road where at night you would have the curio vendor selling. You would have any sort of shop, people manufacturing by day and selling by night. A small business development fund to uplift Bridgetown would go a long way to ensure, would become a

monument to this Government for assistance to small men.

I do not want to go on too long, Sir, and, in closing, I would like to suggest that the Government reconsider the purchase of the land at Rockley and instead set up a fund for Bridgetown small business development.

SENATOR J. E. D. WILLIAMS: Mr. President, whereas I sympathise with Senator Seale for his concern for spending the amount of money we are talking about for purchase of land at Rockley, there has been much talk about keeping windows to the sea open and I think that Government has finally recognised that all efforts should be made in this direction. I would like to compliment Government on taking the stance to purchase the land.

As Senator Barrow said, it is accepted that between 40% and 50% of all tourists that come to Barbados uses the beach at Rockley, and when you look around you can find no facilities or accommodation whatsoever. Therefore I think it is a step in the right direction. Also, the vendors who trade at Rockley have to operate in what I would call adverse conditions. They are open to the elements and with the exception of makeshift accommodation, there is none at the moment. Again, the Government is hoping to build accommodation to look after these vendors. My only concern at first was with the adequate disposal of waste material, taking into consideration the portion of land that we are talking about, but I have been given the assurance by the Ministers and the Ministries concerned that all adequate steps will be taken to look after this.

While on the note of disposal of refuse and waste, I would also like to take the opportunity to issue a note of warning to certain hoteliers who continue and who persist in disposing of refuse and waste right on our shores. One can only imagine the health problems that that causes, and at the same time we must accept that it is doing our marine life absolutely no good.

In terms of Rockley itself I would also like to urge Government to more adequately police that area. There is a lot of illicit trade going on up there, and whereas we were talking about providing facilities for people who carry on honest trade, I think all efforts should be made to police the area. I know that within the past few weeks there has been a move in this direction, but it is very slow. Sometimes you see policemen there and some days you do not see any. I think it is a matter that the Government should look into. All in all, Mr. President, I would like to compliment the Government. I think it is a

move in the right direction, and unlike Senator Seale, I intend to support this Resolution.

SENATOR M. C. C. WARD: Mr. President, this Resolution which is before Parliament to purchase this land is of immense value to Barbados because it is obvious that tourism means so much to this country. I am in complete agreement with the Government purchasing this land, but I think that Senator Seale has over-estimated what would have to be paid for this land, because this land was at one time in the sea and it is only because of certain laws relating to real estate that when the sea goes out you have a right to that land that these people on the other side have been able to claim this land; but the sea used to go into the road at Rockley. I am a real estate agent and I would not pay more than 60 cents a square foot for this land. I think that those who know the area would agree that the place where the Accra is built is entirely reclaimed land, and it is their risk to build on such land. I think that \$10 a square foot is way out; it would in no way come to that kind of figure in any case.

You will be aware that the recently appointed Chairman of the Barbados Board of Tourism has made a statement which links with what Sir Winston said, that the success of our tourist industry in Barbados will be decided on the beaches, and therefore it is an example of Government, even before that gentleman who is a very able man became Chairman, indicating clearly a deep interest in the beaches of Barbados.

Now I am in complete agreement with this and I am not going to be too bashful to say that my colleagues here who came up to this Parliament from below will confirm that I was very outspoken with the Ministers in connection with buying beach property in Barbados and the discussion that took place over the land behind the Hometown Police Station when Parks and Beaches took me to task. They did not ride horses with guns on their hips and that was all when I said it was a waste of money to put a restaurant there, and that they should build an arcade for the people who sell stuff in that area. I do not know if wisdom has penetrated into the Cabinet, but I do hope that this stupid idea of putting a restaurant behind Hometown Police Station has been forgotten and that an arcade will be built. Also the former Attorney General has told me personally that he wanted to add to the police accommodation at Hometown so as to strengthen the Force in that area. I would hope that the present Minister who is responsible for Police will further that idea, so that some of the land behind the Police Station would be for their expansion and some would be for an arcade to move those people off the beach and so on.

Anyhow, to get back to this matter of Rockley. I do not know the plans myself as to what they are going to build, but I suppose there will be toilet and shower

facilities, and I hope there will be an arcade, and I hope too that Parks and Beaches and my colleague here will make sure that people are confined to selling in the arcade and not going out on the beach to irritate people who would rather come here to sunbathe and relax and not have to tell every person who is selling "no, thanks". If they are sunbathing they are punched and told I am selling this, I am selling that and so on.

I am sure the Government will be planning less facilities for this area. To deal with what Senator Seale said about Bridgetown, I would like him and other Senators to know that there is a general plan for a redevelopment of the Careenage area in which what was the old rum bond and Customs will be torn down and put into arcades to accommodate the small businessman. I am glad to hear Senator Seale find fault with those who are next to Cave Shepherd, but I read in the papers where he had supported them some time in the past, so I am very pleased to hear that he has been converted in the right direction in seeing that it is very dangerous having them there. A pocketbook can be snatched and shifted from one person to another in that alley and you do not know what is happening in Broad Street, so Government does have a plan to develop both sides of the Careenage. If Senator Greaves would not carry on his own little meeting, he would understand that we would like him to settle the matter of the shallow draft at the end of Fontabelle so that the development of Bridgetown can proceed. Anyhow, the position is that as soon as the Barbados Workers' Union settles that issue, Mr. President, the Government will proceed to develop all around the Careenage. I believe one side is to be piled for another five to six feet with a sidewalk, and then the traffic will flow around there smoother, so there are big developments.

I am very pleased to support this Resolution, Mr. President, and I again appeal to the Deputy Chairman of Parks and Beaches who I know is conscious of the important role that Parks and Beaches will play in the control of any lawlessness on the beaches, and I exhort him to take action in this regard.

SENATOR J. C. W. WICKHAM: Mr. President, at the risk of saying what is obvious and in order to prevent our running down a cul-de-sac surely both Senator Seale's ideas which are particularly attractive to me since I hold views about the intimacy of the tourists and the community, and the present Resolution are not mutually exclusive. Surely both can be done. A matter of phasing is all that we need. These same people who have to bathe at Rockley will have to shop between 9 o'clock and 5 o'clock, so I do not think we are saying two things which cannot go together. It should give no intellectual difficulty to support both measures.

SENATOR W. W. HALL: Mr. President, I am rather pleased to see that the Barbados Labour Party Government is heeding to the call of the Democratic Labour Party in upgrading the infrastructural facilities for tourism.

You may recall in the 1971 Manifesto of the Democratic Labour Party there were many photographs of areas and amenities such as Holetown, the East Coast Road and areas like that. So I am very pleased to see that the Government is seriously thinking of upgrading these facilities. However, like Senator Seale and Senator Williams, I have a few reservations.

First of all, it is a matter of knowing how much money the whole exercise will cost. It is a simple matter. The hon. Leader can easily supply the information and if he had in his opening remarks, then Senator Seale would not have had any necessity to be alarmed and to consider that the money can be better spent in Baxter's Road.

I would also like to say that from the point of view of Senator Williams point about the environment and pollution on the south coast, I would like to say that if sewage facilities are put there we would have to be very clear that it does not compound the issue. The issue right now with the sewage problem in the south coast is simply that some hotels with sewage systems have completely polluted the area.

I believe that anyone who knows the area from Oistins to Worthing or Hastings will tell you that the reefs along that area were abundant with good fish supplies, and now there is continuous pollution of our waters in that area by some hotels and it is there for all to see. Fish like ning ning, mosicoopers and goggle eyes that were in abundance, Sir, off the St. Lawrence coast now pop up out of the water like magic. The only thing is, Sir, that they are dead and things like rochelles that use to be dug from under the sand with monotonous regularity are now out of existence.

There was a time, Sir, when as a boy one could go up to the waters off Graeme Hall bridge and pick and collect bags fulls of sea eggs in half an hour. The same thing can be said of sea moss (ASIDE) I will not be bothered Sir. Senator Barrow would not know about these things. He comes from St. George. (Laughter) I am not alarmed at his total ignorance of these matters, Sir, but that is a fact and any people who live there will tell you that these things are now non-existent.

What has now happened, Sir, is that these young people of the area who years ago used to be gainfully employed are nearly neurotic and burying themselves in trouble-making along the same hotels, Sir. Now I feel, Sir, that what we should do is to try and make sure that

the facilities are there not only for the tourists but for the locals as well and they should be free of molestation.

I will tell you why, Sir. Barbadians not only go to the sea-side to bathe. They go there to relax and to picnic. Those of us who had boy days would know that they go to picnic and to relax, etc., etc., and what is more, Sir, the youngsters of this country complain that they are told that they are loitering. They are harassed when the foreigners that come to our shores are not harassed in that manner. So the youngsters here are obviously very upset that they are not given a fair deal.

Secondly, Sir, on the contrary, I would believe that the Parks and Beaches — I know Senator Linton will get up an elucidate but I hope he will understand that there is a great need for them to look at their manpower resources. Simply because of the fact (He is writing it down, Sir) that these facilities are there for everyone we must never give the impression that they are there to be abused. That is why Sir, I would advocate that you employ rangers so that the tourists and the locals alike will come to the beaches and find themselves in happy, congenial surroundings and without fear of molestation.

I would say that not only in Accra you will find this but if you go as far as Silver Sands, there is an area there where you have one ranger who must police the area from Long Beach — the hon. Senator may not be aware of this terrain, Sir — but from Long Beach, Silver Sands and even down to the Light House and indeed Atlantic Shores. Now, Sir, there are a few hotels in this area, the Arawak, Silver Sands and people should be free to walk in an area which stretches, I believe the radius is about four miles. I think it is too much to ask one ranger to police this area.

Also, Sir, the locals from Ealing Park, Silver Sands and Atlantic Shores too must be catered for. It is because of these factors that I am appealing, not only to the Government, Sir, but more specifically to Senator Linton to use his good offices as Deputy Chairman of the Parks and Beaches to make sure that while we applaud the upgrading of the beach facilities in Barbados we would like to think that not only will these facilities not be abused but that indeed Barbadians will be able to walk the length and breadth of these beaches without fear of molestation.

I think, Sir, that there is one other point that I would like to make in closing and that is that the beach vendors have for a long time been complaining that they have not been given a fair deal. This might well be so or perhaps, Sir, it might not be so, but I know that as far west as outside the environs of Paradise Beach, the vendors out there complain that they are treated like

aliens, and, indeed, they complain that not even the luxury of a glass of water will be given to them. In fact, they say that the area is like the Sahara Desert because a glass of water is a luxury.

Sir, I believe that these are some of the areas that the Government would do well to look into. The criticisms are rather constructive although I get the impression at times that even a constructive criticism is something that some members do not like to hear, but as long as we are here, Sir, I think that this is again a national issue. It is a situation where we would like to see as many tourists as possible coming to the island and we would like them to be in areas or in situations that we have been in ourselves when we have been overseas.

In other words, Sir, it is merely a reciprocal exercise. With those few words, Sir, I hope that the Government would obviously heed this call that we have more or less put out in many forms, resolutions in Parliament and everywhere that we have been able to be heard, that the Government gives some consideration to the upgrading of beach facilities in Barbados.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Rouse.

SENATOR K. A. ROUSE: Mr. President, I rise to support this resolution and I am glad that Senator Hall has complimented the Government. I do know that he will continue to compliment the Government on its attempt to do things in this country.

I remember, Sir, a couple months and years ago or years and months ago, when there were calls in this country for the window to the sea. The Government is taking the right direction in purchasing this land to do the same. I remember years ago when I went down the Deep Water Harbour, I would see vendors with canvas tops and bits of wood with their produce to sell and since this Government came into power, it has made the Deep Water Harbour a very pleasant place for the small businessman. Like, Senator Seale, I would say that the small businessman has benefitted quite a bit since this Government has come to power and I am hoping, Sir, that the Government would take the same opportunity that it has taken to make the Deep Water Harbour a very pleasant shopping mall for the small businessman. I do hope that the same type of facilities will be erected when this project is completed.

As far as, the other facilities are concerned, I do believe that something seriously — Government has to look very seriously at this Broad Street area where these people assemble to sell produce because, as Senator Ward said, it is an area where one can snatch a wallet, pass it from one person to the next and, therefore, the person who has lost that wallet is left at a loss because he cannot see who has taken this. If Rockley Beach were

done in a similar way to the Deep Water Harbour, I do believe that this type of activity could not go on as now seen. The tourist must be protected, Mr. President, because he comes here and we need his dollars and, therefore, I believe that the beaches have got to be more policed and allow him to be safe when he comes to our shores.

Mr. President, I am glad to see that Senator Seale has also talked about Baxter's Road because a lot can be done for Baxter's Road.

The small businessman needs a little more scope, a little more area to be able to sell his produce, therefore, I would like to support this resolution in its entirety.

Thank you.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Greaves.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. President, I would like to say that the points which have been made by Senator Hall in his contribution to this debate are basically points which I agree with. I would, however, want to take the debate into a slightly more general kind of area.

First, I would like to say that some concern has been expressed, as Senator Hall has pointed out, about the problem of sewage on the South Coast and I seem to have gotten the impression that the former Honourable Minister of Health has also expressed this concern. The concern has been expressed in another place about the kind of impact which this additional facility will place on the already overburdened sewage situation on the south coast, particularly in view of the fact that, as I understand it, the Government is proposing to extend the sewage system into that particular area. Sir, I think this is a matter which should be given some fairly careful consideration.

Now, on the general question of acquisitions, it seems to me that Government has quite a bit of land all over Barbados and I think the time has come when stock ought to be taken of what lands we already have and some kind of programme or map be provided as to the way in which Government proposes to utilise this land. Now, I am not at all opposed to acquisition of land, but I notice that within the last couple of months that there has been, as it were, an almost mad rush to acquire land here, there, and everywhere. My plea would be to let us take a stock at some future date and let the Government prepare an inventory as it were of the land which it has unutilised at the present moment, as it were, around the country and, indeed, provide a programme for the effective utilisation of this land and, obviously, for the benefit of the community.

Now, on the specific issue of the provision of a beach facility at Rockley, I think that when all is said and done one would have to conclude that there is a need for this. Rockley, as I understand it, is a popular beach — that is the one above Accra I think — a very popular beach and it is a little surprising that a beach facility has not been established there before, but let me just say that this whole question of beach facilities ought to be put in the proper perspective and whereas, like other Honourable Senators, I believe that we have to provide facilities for the enjoyment of people who come to our shores for holidays, nevertheless, we also have to bear in mind that we have people who are living here in Barbados and that our thrust ought to be, in my view, primarily in that direction. In short, we have to be able to answer the needs of our people in this society.

We must recognise, for example, that people, workers in particular today are working shorter hours, they have more time for leisure time activity and going to the seaside is more than just a passing pastime. It is something which people look forward to and, as I said, Rockley is a beach which is popular not only for the tourists, but also for Barbadians. So that, we on this Side, would certainly welcome this measure. I do not think that any position of opposing has been taken on this particular matter of the provision of the beach facility which would be put up at Rockley. But, I would like to urge the Government, Mr. President, to look further afield than Rockley. All I have heard in here this evening would tend to suggest that there is some concern in the Government about providing facilities for the benefit of tourists in the areas that we have heard mentioned, Holetown and all along the south coast which is primarily an area frequented by the tourists in this country. I would like the Government to look a little to the North.

My pleas in this direction, Mr. President, are well known, I have fought for a long time, and, even when my party was in control of the reins of Government in this country, I have drawn to the party's attention the need for the extension and the provision of such facilities to cater to the people of the north and up to this point in time such pleas have fallen on dead ears or deaf ears. I am sure that were we returned to power we would have had an opportunity to put into effect the kind of urges which I have been making in the past on this particular area, but I think that it is a matter which ought to be given very serious consideration.

I remember that about three or four years ago I took a Resolution to Parliament concerning the establishment of a national park and the development of beach facilities in an area of St. Lucy just beyond Crab Hill, in Archers Bay, and the Government came with what can be considered as a response, but yet not a response, because the Prime

Minister in a ministerial statement declared from the point at which I was directing the Government's attention, from one point in Archers Bay to Ragged Point in St. Philip as an area for the development of a national park. One has only got to think in terms of the entire area and to wonder when they would get around to that particular development. In that particular area, Mr. President, you would notice that there are areas which are not frequented by any large numbers of tourists, but they are areas which are used more frequently by inhabitants of this country, and that is my concern in this debate.

I believe that the Government ought to demonstrate some real concern in the establishment of beach facilities in these areas. We have one at Bath, we have one on the East Coast Road, but what for example about a popular area like Bathsheba? Bathsheba is an area which is frequented by large numbers of Barbadians. The Parks and Beaches Commission has a little lookout down there, that is all they have. There is no changing room, no changing facilities or anything.

SENATOR M. C. C. WARD: On a point of order, Mr. President. I would just inform the Hon. Senator that the former Vestry system had put a bathing cubicle down there for changing, it went into disrepair and the Parks and Beaches have renewed it, it has doors on it, it is private and everything at Bathsheba.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: I am talking about beach facilities and you are talking about a cubicle. Do you mean something you have to squeeze to get into? We are talking, Mr. President, about a well laid out facility where people can go and can change in comfort, and where if they want to answer nature's call they can use such facilities, and I am saying those facilities are not there. Senator Linton knows this.

SENATOR H. R. LINTON: Mr. President, on a point of.....

Mr. PRESIDENT: I wish hon. members would not rise at every bait that is thrown out and keep this debate going so long. If hon. members who have not made a second reading speech interrupts in the debate, they must understand that they may very well prejudice their opportunity for speaking. I am going to be very strict. Proceed.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Thank you, Mr. President. As I was saying, I think the Government ought to be looking at establishing facilities in such areas. There are a number of areas, and I am particularly concerned with the northern areas, and I would like to see the Government even although I am not the representative, temporarily, for that constituency to at least pay some attention to St. Lucy. There are a number of

fine beaches there. I can think in terms of River Bay, which is a popular area, and I think we ought not to be partisan in this particular area. I would like to see a dream which I have had about that area being developed, a proper facility being developed there. I would not want to name all of the other areas where facilities could be developed, but certainly at a place like Little Bay in St. Lucy, we could also pay some attention to that particular area.

So that when we are talking about the establishment of beach facilities at Rockley in Christ Church, I would like to think that this would be part of an overall plan for the development of facilities all over this country with particular emphasis being made on the development of facilities for the people of this country in the areas which are frequented by the people of this country. This is not to say that this facility at Rockley will not be used by Barbadians, I am not at all saying that.

As far as the accommodation for the beach vendors is concerned, I think that beach vendors are a fact of our tourist life and we ought therefore to reckon with them and make some kind of provision for their accommodation. Unfortunately I was not in here when the Leader of the Senate was speaking and therefore I am not privy to what he said about the kind of facilities or the kind of accommodation which would be established for beach vendors, but I would hope that they would be the kind of facilities where these beach vendors can use them and feel some sense of dignity and pride in the use of such accommodation, I would like to think that such accommodation would be provided in other areas where beach vendors are operating. As I said, it is a fact of our tourist life and we ought therefore to make proper accommodation for such people who obviously play a role in our tourist development.

SENATOR H. R. LINTON: Mr. President, I want to begin by agreeing with Senator Wickham. I too, do not believe that Senator Seale's ideas for the further development of certain parts of Bridgetown to accommodate small businessmen and this particular Resolution pertaining to the acquisition of certain property at Rockley for the construction of a beach facility and accommodation for beach vendors are mutually exclusive. I think that both are admirable propositions and this Government should indeed seek to achieve both objectives. As a matter of fact, I want to go further and congratulate Senator Seale on raising the matter of further accommodation for the small businessmen in Barbados in the Senate at the earliest opportunity that he got, well recalling that in another place at another time on a previous occasion he also raised the question and I supported it then as well.

I did not understand Senator Seale to be critical of the Resolution in terms of its content. I understood

him to be saying that; in terms of priority, it has perhaps been brought at the wrong time, and he would like to see the small businessmen have their problems solved first. Sir, to ask a question of priority in economic terms, I am sure that our colleague, Senator McClean, would describe it as the allocation of scarce resources among competing interests, and you will probably then go on to say that the particular cost of the one you achieved is the cost of the one you had to forego. Not that I think you are going to forego the opportunity of making appropriate and adequate provisions for the small businessman, because I promise you, Sir, that if Senator Seale should raise that question again on a more appropriate occasion when we are discussing a more relevant item, he will merit and will, indeed, have earned my wholehearted support on the matter.

Now so far as the Resolution is concerned, I was surprised to find that Senator Greaves did not raise one of the most important reasons for the construction of this facility at Rockley, because from the time I entered the Parks and Beaches Commission, about four and a half to five years ago, the Barbados Workers' Union was urging the Parks and Beaches Commission to construct a facility such as we now propose to construct at Rockley Beach primarily for use by the vast number of workers there. The position as it presently obtains is that the workers, when they want to perform their ablutions have to go to Chefette or one of the properties over the road, or as he said quite incorrectly in relation to Bathsheba, go behind the rocks or stones or the bushes and that sort of thing. The Union quite rightly regarded that as highly improper and so too did Parks and Beaches, and it is on this basis that we at first asked Cabinet to approve the acquisition of a parcel of land whereon we could construct a facility for use by the workers. We at first envisaged that it would only have been necessary to create a small facility, but because of the problem of disposal of sewage down there, it turned out that it would be more economical to construct a larger facility which would not only be used by the workers whose concerns have occupied the attention of the Union for a very long time and, indeed, of Parks and Beaches but also by visitors down there because it is as unsightly, insanitary and unwholesome to witness a tourist performing his ablutions on the beach or behind a rock as it is to witness a worker perform his or hers behind a bush. Consequently we decided it would be wise to construct a facility that would not only provide accommodation for workers in the Parks and Beaches Commission — and any day we have an average of 20 to 30 down there — but also to make provision whereby visitors throughout the beach could make use of the facility. Make no mistake here, it is one of the most popular beaches in the island and is used by tourists and locals.

Here again I want to support Senator Wickham. I read an article in the Sun last Sunday where he was setting out a case for the intermingling of the tourists and locals, and I am going to refer to that later on because I think it is precisely a situation which we ought to arrive at in relation to the beach vendors and the tourists. This facility grew a bit bigger when we realised that the vendors were creating a bit of a problem on the beach at Rockley, because, try as you may, restrict the issue of licences as you may, it is virtually impossible to control the number of vendors at Rockley unless we have a facility where we can put them to stay.

Let me give you an example. To my knowledge the Parks and Beaches Commission has not approved any licences for any vendor who has applied to sell what we commonly call black coral. Basically, this is sold by the vendors who walk around with the black briefcases, so that when members of the public see vendors with these black briefcases and selling black coral, the Parks and Beaches do not approve that. It is our experience in the Parks and Beaches Commission that that is maybe the one percent of the beach vendors that my colleague Senator Ward, who I must say has a personal and vested interest in the industry, talked about last week, this one percent being the black coral vendors, and they are the ones we find who cause the problems. Not only are they the ones who by and large cause the problems, but we are not even sure yet what effect the removal of this coral from the seabed is having on our reefs. Consequently the Parks and Beaches Commission has in my view quite rightly refused the issue of licences to those persons who wish to sell black coral on the beaches. If it is, therefore, that one per cent of the beach vendors who are creating the problems, then it cannot be the Parks and Beaches Commission's problem, because the Parks and Beaches Commission has not given any authority to sell.

I know that our rangers will then have the right to seek them out and arrest them, but they are so elusive that it would take nearly the whole police force to get them arrested, because they have a small suitcase and they can run extremely fast, and it is proving very difficult to control them. We find however that in places such as Sam Lord's Castle, places such as Paradise, Holiday Inn and Hilton Hotel where kiosks have been constructed it is much easier to control the beach vendors, and I must take this opportunity to congratulate certain hotels like Sam Lord's, Paradise, Holiday Inn and the Hilton which at their own expense have constructed kiosks where the beach vendors can go and sell their wares. If the Tower Hotel is experiencing difficulties in this sphere, it may be because the management is not far-sighted enough or is probably too cheap to construct areas where the beach vendors can go and sell their wares. The Parks and Beaches Commission is not to be blamed if a hotel, if it is making money and lots of it too, finds that it is too cheap to construct a place and

to treat the vendors like human beings. In this regard I agree with Senator Hall that these vendors have every right to feel that they are alien in the society when certain hotels refuse to recognise them as human beings firstly and as people secondly who are simply setting out to make a living. I do not think that the Parks and Beaches Commission should either be indicted or convicted for a matter that is totally out of its control and which is indeed firmly in the hands of some of the people who own and operate hotels, but who may be too lax, short-sighted or cheap to cooperate with us.

We have asked on several occasions for the hotels to cooperate with the Parks and Beaches Commission in siting extra rangers on their properties and one or two of the hotels have cooperated. I do not know if we sent one to the Tower Hotel. I have never seen any correspondence where they have agreed to do anything and cooperate with the Parks and Beaches Commission. Yet what do we hear? We hear criticisms. We certainly do not get any from a place like Sam Lord's Hotel where only last Friday I was when they agreed to erect a certain number of what they call palavers, those little things with tops where they would house the beach vendors. That is a hotel which is prepared to accommodate the beach vendor, which is prepared to make sure that he ekes out an existence just like any other Barbadian. That is not a hotel that perhaps does not want the local Barbadian to mix with the tourists for whatever reason. That is a hotel that is far-sighted and it is a hotel that will go far just like Paradise, the Holiday Inn and the Hilton Hotel.

I find the incumbent Chairman of the Tourist Board unlike any of the past Chairmen to be far-sighted, very knowledgeable, very intelligent and very cooperative, and I regret to say I cannot say that for one of the previous Chairmen of the Tourist Board. The present Chairman of the Tourist Board has been cooperating so well that I have already been offered an opportunity of visiting Sandy Lane with him. I have already visited the Holiday Inn and Paradise where we have solved the problem, where these hotels have at their own expense erected some beautiful kiosks, and I invite all Senators to go and see the kiosks at Paradise which have been incorporated in the entire plans. I have gone down there with the present Chairman of the present Tourist Board. He did not get anywhere and blow off his top and sweated and cursed everybody and say that nothing is happening. He did not throw up his hands in the air as though he does not know what is going on and as though he does not have any way of solving the problems, Sir. He called me, put me in his car and we drove to the hotels and we got the problem solved. That is how you work; that is how I appreciate a Chairman of a Tourist Board who will get up and work rather than talk foolishness all the time.

Let me get back to the Resolution, Sir. So far as Senator Hall is concerned, Sir, I am not going to be as acid with him because I respect his comments. I appreciate what he said. Long Beach, which had the reputation — we had the Nudist Camp — of being a nudist beach does not, in our view, present any problems. In fact, today I am surprised to hear that there is a problem of vandalism or interference with the tourists at Long Beach because we are usually in possession of these facts and we have not been receiving any complaints at Long Beach. We felt that it would be better to deploy the limited number of rangers at our disposal to the beaches that pose problems rather than to send them to beaches such as Long Beach.

I will promise the Senator that the moment I leave here I will call the manager of the Parks and Beaches Commission and ask him to give me a report on Long Beach and if, in fact, it is necessary to have more rangers there at Long Beach, I will make sure that it will be done by the end of the week, but I repeat that we do not get that problem there. What we will do is to take one or two from the Park as we do not need them there at this time and send them down to Long Beach.

Of course, the Leader of the Senate raised another point where we are hamstrung like any other department or perhaps like private enterprise, with the lack of capital and resources whereby we can pay an extra number of rangers. But that is not to say, Sir, that the Government has been sitting idly by and doing nothing. Last year the Deputy Prime Minister gave us permission to increase our number of rangers by eighteen and we did that last year. Every time the sea-egg season comes around we take on an extra fourteen rangers or so, so that the Government is doing as much as it can to assist Parks and Beaches to deal with this problem.

I must say, Sir, that this problem has only assumed very, very serious proportions within the last two years or so. As I said last week, I believe a lot of it relates to a better system of reporting crimes on the beaches and in the parks. I have no doubt that the crime was always there. A lot of it has to do with the method of reporting and probably detecting. Be that as it may, Sir, the Government has not sat idly by far less the Parks and Beaches Commission. We have not only used the increase in the number of wardens to police the beaches, particularly the beaches where we habitually get trouble, but we have also increased the Parks complement and we have taken wardens from the parks where we can do without them and have placed them on the beaches so much so that the comments aired in this Honourable Chamber will not fall on deaf ears. When we ask for a further increase in the number of wardens in the Parks and Beaches

Commission the argument put forward in this Chamber today will be used by the Leader in Cabinet in support of the request for an increase in staff which I hope that we will get.

So far as the Archers' Bay/Ragged Point Park is concerned, during the last session when the then Senator Roy Brathwaite was here he asked me for certain developments through the Parks and Beaches Commission at Little Bay, Archers Bay and about four other places down in St. Lucy. I quite whole-heartedly promised Senator Brathwaite that I would do as best I could.

Only two weeks ago Mr. Roy Brathwaite, M.P., as he now is, Sir, approached me for assistance with Little Bay and Archers' Bay. That puts Senator Greaves far behind in his request for assistance in St. Lucy. What is more, Sir, he is wondering when the Government will get around to developing the national park at Archers' Bay and Ragged Point. I am pleased to tell him, in case the Leader of the Senate forgets or it slips him, that already the Government was presented with a report, I do not remember who did it. It was done about six months ago. I believe it was done by someone from the United Nations with suggestions and proposals for development of a national park.

The Parks and Beaches Commission has been asked to study those proposals which we have done and we have also sent our suggestions to Cabinet. Of course, the elections ensued and I believe they went a bit on the cold storage but, notwithstanding that, I propose to ask to have the matter raised with the Parks and Beaches Commission in order to facilitate Mr. Roy Brathwaite, M.P.'s request that we should develop certain parts in St. Lucy. I will also mention of course, that Senator Greaves having heard that Mr. Roy Brathwaite had approached me has also asked to have it done, Sir.

So far as Bathsheba is concerned, I do not believe that the Senator travels at all or, if he travels, he certainly does not travel through Bathsheba. If he did he would see being constructed, if it is not finished yet, as I have not been there for about eight weeks now, Sir, he will see there being constructed now about 100 metres from where the old community centre was, right on the road, and about a mile from Andromeda Gardens a new all purpose facility, if he did not know that it is supposed to be a recreational centre and a changing facility. It is also hoped that it will provide an area for the beach vendors although we find that this is not so necessary at Bathsheba, but he could indeed have asked me rather than making these comments in here which I hope will not now be reported after I have corrected the erroneous impression which he sought to create in here *vis-a-vis* my friend and brother the representative from St. Joseph whom I will never let down in the same way that I do

not intend to let down Mr. Roy Brathwaite with his request.

I know the Leader is eager to reply and I am not going to detain the Chamber any longer. I just want to make it clear that the Parks and Beaches Commission is cognisant of all or most of the problems which exist on the Island's beaches. It has in fact been trying, with the limited resources, available to it in terms of cash, personnel, in terms of tools and in terms of equipment to solve the problems as speedily and as adequately as it possibly can.

The Parks and Beaches Commission from its inception was not designed to cope with the fairly serious problems that we are now experiencing both on our beaches and in our parks. Not only that, Sir, over the last five years there has been a dramatic increase in the area and scope of responsibility with the Parks and Beaches Commission.

We have had added to us the commercial section of the Parks and Beaches Commission. We have had brought unto us the lifeguard section of the Parks and Beaches Commission. We have had started the system of licensing the beach vendors. We have had the Government's gardens brought under us, including these at Government House. We have had the Underwater Park. We are stuck with the parks from Archers Bay to Ragged Point and we have had every conceivable item relating to the environment and its related subjects brought under the aegis of the Parks and Beaches Commission.

Unfortunately, we have not seen a commensurate increase either in terms of personnel, revenue or grants and consequently we are making the best of a situation that was not really of our making. I think that, by and large, from the number of letters we get from the public we are regarded as one of the Statutory Boards that is doing a fairly good job.

Nonetheless I promise that we will not rest on our laurels. I have taken the cause of this Senate to heart and, of course, with the consent of Madam Chairman of the Parks and Beaches Commission, instituted an investigation of the more serious problems that occur on the more popular beaches. By popular I do not mean necessarily the ones that are habitually frequented by the tourists. It also includes the popular ones that are used by the locals as well as such as the Crane Beach and those areas. As soon as we are in possession of this information very soon from now we shall redeploy our rangers to suit.

I just want Sir, to close by thanking all hon. members for the comments which they have made *vis-a-vis* the Parks and Beaches Commission which were by and large favourable and to show the Senate that the Parks and Beaches Commission is cognisant of the

problems which the country is experiencing since the question of tourism has recently been equated to the question of safety on the beaches, we will make sure that tourism continues to flourish in this country. Thank you Mr. President.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Lynch.

SENATOR MRS. E. M. LYNCH: Mr. President, in rising to support this resolution, I would like to suggest that perhaps more attention should be given to the recommendations of the Honourable Leader of the Opposition about the facilities. We are glad to hear that there seems to be a definite programme of creating these facilities because what has always struck me is that Barbados is an island and that too few of our children have the opportunity to learn to swim — swimming is a survivor's game — I would like to see Government looking at these facilities in relation to the availability for school children to be able to use them and to be instructed in swimming.

The question of policing of the beaches is a disturbing one because it should be related only to tourists. I think that our own people are beginning to feel that the beaches are not safe always even for ourselves, even for our own citizens and I am unhappy that we place so much emphasis on the policing. We can never police adequately if the people in a community are beginning to have a wrong view of themselves, of their responsibilities as citizens, if they do not have that pride in their country which makes them want to meet strangers and communicate with them comfortably and happily. I think this is a serious matter. We should not be satisfied to say, put more police on the beaches, police the beaches better. There are other things we have to do. It is all very well to say that Barbadians have the right to use the beaches. This is a point which we have always stressed. We are very proud of the fact that we have not allowed our beaches to be commandeered, so to speak, by visitors so that we cannot get there ourselves, but we do have to do something more positive about telling people more about their responsibility, if they have the right to use the beaches, they also have a responsibility, as citizens of their country not to need policing. It is distressing that we need so much policing. It is distressing to see so much wrought iron around windows. We must not put our heads in the sand because, so long as we see so much wrought iron and so many policemen on the beaches, and still we hear mention of hostility, if you put people together on a beach and they are hostile, the fact that you have charming facilities and well-equipped policemen will not prevent incidents.

Newspaper reporters also have a responsibility. Not so long ago, one former politician commented, and his comments were relevant, that when you read the newspaper, you got the impression that Barbados was a place

that it was not so good to visit because there was so much that was unpleasant there. He cited the various incidents that have been reported in the press for that one week. I myself was surprised to see a very explicit, detailed report about an incident on this very Rockley Beach and incidents of this kind ought not to take place in a society such as ours where we boast of so much education and where we set out to invite people to come to Barbados because it is such a pleasant place to be. Should we not be trying to instruct our citizens or trying to promote the idea that we should not have an attitude of exploitation – and this attitude of exploitation is not confined may I say to the vendors on the beach – but, it may be that we should all change our attitude to this question of the tourists and what we expect to get out of the tourists and think rather in terms of inviting people here or welcoming people here to share a pattern of gracious living which we ourselves enjoy. We cannot give the tourists anything which we do not have and we are not going to be able to confine molestation and hostility to the tourists. Indeed, it is not confined to the tourists and we do not have the simple picture that we are not giving the vendors on the beach and not treating them like human beings and not offering them water. This may sound nice to our constituents how you are sharpening them and all that, but do not let us be starry-eyed.

There is a lot of exploitation going on in this country. If you own what is called an ackee tree, or a plum tree, or even a grape vine, you will find that very simple people, very poor people who sell these things are exploiting poor people to whom they sell them, like children. I think an ackee costs a halfpenny. Exploitation is not only a matter of the rich entrepreneur or the wealthy entrepreneur exploiting the poor. It is not a matter of the hotelier being ungracious to the vendor, it is also the pattern of the vendor being ungracious to the person to whom he or she sells the product which he has to sell. So, perhaps it might be a good thing, but there has been a fall so to speak in tourism. It gives us a breathing space, it gives us time to look around to think and to try to set to work on the various factors which are not contributing to the well-being of the society. The tourists themselves have a responsibility to the society to remember that they must take time to understand the people they are among. Sometimes, you try to advise a visitor about certain matters. They do not take your advice, they think they know. They feel they are very sophisticated and they are capable of handling these smiling natives and then they get themselves into difficult situations. I do not want to unfold any tales here because I live in Christ Church and that is a parish where there are a good many tourists. So, let us be constructive and let us see this as a problem which is not simply one of policing beaches. It is one of trying to educate our citizens. Various political activists spend a great deal of time giving them all kinds of information and some of the information might be things which are constructive in the society.

We do have problems in our society. We must not ignore them, we must not say just put more policemen on the beat, and things of this sort. We must get down to thinking about the ways in which we can educate people to handle tourism or anything else constructively. We ought to be able to show that we are educated enough, civilised enough to meet people from anywhere at all and to have such pride and such confidence in our own culture that we can withstand the impact of other people, share with them what we have, which I think is well worth sharing, and earn their respect while we earn their dollars.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. President, it is rather fascinating that this item should have led to debate for, I suppose, about an hour and a half. I am beginning to wonder how we are going to get business through at this rate, when members show such an amazing capacity to talk at great length about comparatively little. We have gone from kiosks to chaos.

It is a simple Resolution. I think Senator Seale raised something earlier relating to price. The fact of the matter is I did not want to discuss price and therefore gave too little information which probably explains part of the consumption of the last hour and a half, although it cannot possibly explain all of it. It is not a matter of \$10 a square foot land, Sir. Unless agreements have been drawn I would not feel free to talk about what Government is going to pay for it, because we know that the Land Acquisition Act plus the fundamental provisions of the Constitution make these matters determinable by the courts if people do not agree. But as far as we are aware, going on the evidence of the transactions in the area, the land should be acquired at rather modest prices. For example, Sir, in 1977 Mr. John Perreira sold his 29,913 square feet to Mr. Thomas Wiggins for \$10,000 approximately 35 cents a square foot.

We are dealing with parcels of land, some of which have been refused permission by the Town Planner for development. The land is being bought so that this much needed facility, a little provision for vendors and, generally, provision for people to shower, change, go to the bathroom and so on, and to ensure that we brought all under the control of Parks and Beaches and to be a properly landscaped window to the sea. That is all, Sir. I did not think really it was going to lead to so much debate. When I say this I am not suggesting that I could not, at greater length, have replied to what has been said, but I really have to restrict my replies within the area of relevance to the Resolution, as I see it, Sir. Therefore I do not propose to deal with policing and what not. Last week we were dealing with a Civil Establishments Order, we ended up talking about tourism and the police. We are talking about a beach facility this evening, tourism and police.

The other point raised which I consider relevant, and relevant in the extreme, on the one hand Senator Hall said that he supported the Resolution and referred to photographs in the 1971 Manifesto of the Democratic Labour Party as though those photographs have anything to do with this Resolution. At the same time Senator Greaves said he supported the Resolution, and he wanted, indeed, to know why it did not come before us before. I am in a position to answer Senator Greaves' question, and, by implication therefore, to cause Senator Hall a little doubt as to the good reason for the faithfulness of his position.

There is a note on the file, Sir, which is an extract from the confirmed Minutes of Cabinet on the 23rd May, 1972, and since this was communicated to Parks and Beaches it is not a matter of any confidence any longer, so I can read it therefore for Senator Greaves' enlightenment and for the enlightenment of the Senate as to why we did not have this before:

"On the subject of the erection of a facility on Rockley Beach, the Prime Minister reminded the Cabinet that the question of the erection of a facility on that area had been previously considered by the Cabinet, and that the conclusion had been reached that no facility should be permitted to be erected there either on public or private areas of the land."

We are dealing with the same area here, Sir, we are dealing both with the private areas and the areas which we are now buying, which will all become public areas.

"The Cabinet directed that the Ministry of Housing, Lands, Labour and National Insurance and the Parks and Beaches Commission should be informed in writing, and a copy of the communication sent to the Chief Town Planner, that the Cabinet had previously decided and still adhered to that decision that no permanent structure should be allowed to be erected on any part of Rockley Beach."

That was communicated to the Commission.

"It further directed that the Commission should be advised that the drafting of Regulations be made by the Commission or any other Statutory Board was the function of the Ministry of Legal Affairs."

The final point is that —

"Particular attention was paid to the paragraphs relating to the enlargement of a small hut at Rockley Beach for storing of tools and directed that the attention of the Commission should be

drawn to the fact that the carrying out of the proposed works would be a further infringement of the previous decision of the Cabinet that no permanent structure should be allowed to be erected on any part of Rockley Beach.

It was suggested that the Commission might wish to consider making arrangements with some nearby property owner for the use, perhaps on a rental basis, of a locker on his premises for the storage of its tools."

In other words, the position held by Government then was that there should be no such facility at Rockley Beach and that the Parks and Beaches should not even erect a hut for its tools. That, Sir, is the reason this Resolution has not come before Parliament until now, because it was not until this Government came in that it faced the evidence of the need for the facility and therefore decided that lands should be purchased and such a facility erected. I believe, Sir, that there has really not been anything else raised.

All I would like to do before I sit is to ask whether Hon. Senators who have copies of the plan can pass them back to me before I pass out others on the other Resolution.

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

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

The Second Order of the Day was called — to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Bay Street, St. Michael, to provide office accommodation for the Child Care Board.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. President, this Resolution concerns the purchase of a building on Bay Street known as Savoy which is right next to the window to the sea on Bay Street. For some time now the Government has been concerned about adequate accommodation for the Child Care Board and the House called Savoy was put up for sale. When Government moved to acquire it it was discovered that there was an agreement between the owners of the property and a private individual for its sale. As a result the Government came into the negotiations a little late. The private individual agreed that he had incurred expenses of just over \$7,000, \$7,285 if my memory serves me correctly. As you look at the Resolution you will see two premises. There is a small cottage also on the property, so that when I talk about the Savoy, the Savoy is the name of one of the two houses on the property, but it is a single property.

It has been drawn to my attention that what the Schedule says is the Savory, but it is the Savoy.

The position, Sir, is that the private individual agreed to withdraw from the purchase if his expenses of just over \$7,000 were refunded. The vendor had in the meantime been looking to the market and there was ample evidence that the property would probably carry a price of \$320,000. However, in the bargaining it was agreed that the vendor would accept and the Government would pay a sum of \$275,000 for the property and that the intended purchaser who had now withdrawn would be refunded his \$7,000 odd.

This matter, like many others which come here, is not here because of any dispute in price but merely to facilitate a speedy completion of the matter.

There is nothing else that I can think of at this point which seems relevant to the Resolution as I present it, and therefore if other points come up in questioning I shall try to answer them.

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

SENATOR St.C. E. HOWELL: Mr. President, I rise in support of this Resolution and I have no doubt that Hon. Senators who would be prepared to speak on this Resolution would as they did in the previous Resolution support it.

Sir, those of us who have had some dealing with the Child Care Board within the last two years would congratulate the Government in trying to acquire this property for the further accommodation of the Child Care Board. The building, as I understand it, was first acquired somewhere late in 1977 and from the inception it became quite clear that the present building was indeed inadequate. Since then the staff has increased quite considerably, but what was particularly important at the time was that from the very beginning there was no accommodation for the clerical staff section. The result was that those of us who visited the building from time to time would realise that as soon as you push the door and enter the building, that within the first three feet one walked smack into a desk, and that whole area of the passage way is what had been used from the beginning by the clerical staff. My information is that within the past two years the clerical staff itself has been increased by over 100 per cent in order to meet the growing demands that are now being placed on the Child Care Board.

In addition to that, Sir, we had within the duration of the last Parliament quite a large number of Acts being passed, a considerable amount of social legislation dealing with Acts which would be administered by the Child Care

Board. I speak here, Sir, of the new Child Care Board Act, the new Prevention of Cruelty to Children (Amendment) Act, and in particular the new Adoption (Amendment) Act. All this has led to an increase not only in the clerical staff, but also in the professional staff, people who are experts in child care and so forth. The result is that the Act having been proclaimed, there is a new set of people, some four people for whom there is no accommodation at all, and they have taken to using the Board Room. In case there is any Board meeting they just have to look for holes. There is nowhere for them to work.

It is also alarming that from time to time there have to be teach-ins, and there is nowhere in that building as it stands where the senior staff can train the new recruits. The facilities are really atrocious. For the number of people there, there are only two washrooms, one for the ladies and one for the gents. The building, to my mind, is not large enough; I think they can do with a larger building. They have been trying to do this from time to time over there, but it is inconvenient. Inasmuch as this is right next door, it will help to eliminate some of the problems in accommodating people who to my mind have to carry out a very important function of caring for the children in our society whom we all agree are the men and women of tomorrow.

Clearly we all agree that the children of today are the people of tomorrow. It is not a factor that can be treated lightly and in the circumstances I have always advocated that in dealing with matters of the Child Care Board, where the welfare of the children of our society is being considered, the Child Care Board and the staff should be given the same support as members of other Boards, in particular, Boards with an income generating capacity.

It is my view, Sir, that the Child Care Board should always be given the same support as these permanent boards in order that we can help to build a better society for our children, the people of tomorrow, to be brought up. Without much more ado, as I said, I think that this Resolution would not be met with much difficulty. I ask that this Resolution be now concurred in.

The question was put to the Senate and agreed to.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE LEASE OF LAND BY THE CROWN TO TROWEL PLASTICS (B'DOS) LIMITED

The Third Order was called — To move the passing of a Resolution to approve the lease of land at Bagatelle, St. James to Trowel Plastics (Barbados) Limited.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. President, this is a Resolution which seeks to regularize a

particular situation and then to establish a new relationship. It is not one in which a particular area, where it is situated and all that, is important in that for our own purposes the lessees here operated under a sublease from Quarry Products Limited. They had then land sufficient for their purposes and the same land is now sufficient for their purposes.

At the time there was a sublease because Quarry Products had held the lease from the Government and paid the rent right up until May 16, 1975 when their lease ran its time. What happened thereafter, Sir, is that no rent had been collected by Government from Trowel Plastics until comparatively recently when it was sought to put the matter on a proper footing.

Trowel Plastics Limited informed the Government that they had not paid any rent since 1974 when Quarry Products closed down. They were just continuing as squatters but previously they had paid Quarry Products Limited \$1,200 a year as rent so Government had the Commissioner of Valuations to value the land and requested that they pay off their arrears at the old rate of \$1,200 a year, and that from 1st August 1980 until such time as the lease was regularized that they should pay at the new rate of \$300 per month. Trowel Plastics had been complying with this request.

They have paid off their \$6,200 arrears and they have been paying at \$300.00 a month and they are now granted a lease for a period of 15 years, with a renewal option. The rent of \$3,600 a year is renewable at three yearly periods so all we have, Sir, is a Barbadian business renting lands from Government, putting themselves in good standing by paying off arrears which other people did not apparently deem it important to collect and having a lease now which puts them on a proper footing.

I therefore propose, Sir, 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 CHURCH VILLAGE, ST. MICHAEL

The Fourth Order was called — To move the passing of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Church Village, St. Michael for the Church Village Re-development Project.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. President, the main thrust of the development at Church Village really, Sir, is the thrust of urban renewal and while we are not a country with the kind of human resources in terms of skills with quite the abundance we

would wish, all the money to push ahead with urban renewal projects at a pace that we would like, we have, I believe been making quite an impression on the face of Bridgetown with a programme of urban renewal projects.

Fontabelle/Cheapside is nearly finished and we trust that Roebuck Street will get its turn. If the ideas expressed by Senator Seale for Baxter's Road are carried out, it will mean a complete face lift for Baxter's Road.

In the case of Church Village, Sir, we must recognise that we are dealing with an area of rather dense population and the development works that have already begun at Church Village. Sir, those works mean that a number of persons have to be relocated. I am sure, Sir, that I do not need to talk about the development in the Cathedral Square since a lot has been talked about it and a lot of talk about the new Central Bank. There are those who say it should go up and those who say that a building belonging to a certain gentleman ought to come down. I did not know it belonged to a certain gentleman. I thought it belonged to the Government and people of Barbados.

Church Village is really being given a completely different look and these acquisitions before us are acquisitions to facilitate the Church Village redevelopment, there has been land identified and I believe it is under consideration for the resiting of the residents of Church Village at Valerie. I believe, Sir, that last time there was any sizeable movement like this, it was to facilitate the sewerage project and the movement then took place from Chapman Lane to Clapham. It was thought that it would have been good enough to move people without bringing to them any improvement in the quality of their housing.

Let me stress, Sir, that when we move people, we move people with an emphasis, not only on the area to which they move, but on the improvement of the housing stock. We cannot look to the old idea that if you had a water borne toilet system before, you would have one now whereas, if you did not have one, you are not to have one and that kind of thing as was thought to be an appropriate approach to the residents at Emmerton who had moved to Clapham, until the National Housing Corporation under Senator Simmons and the Ministry of Housing under the then Senator Mapp took a hand in it and decided that the housing stock would have to be improved. If you move people, you are under obligation to put them in comfortable situations.

So, there is no need for anyone who is being moved from Church Village to fear that his situation will in any way worsen. Indeed, we confidently expect that when moved his housing situation will improve and if we are

to be guided by what has happened at Clapham Park, then, we can look forward to the sense of community being transferred with the housing. That sense of community, which I consider extremely important, is something that it is extremely difficult to recognise in any of the larger housing estates. When you build a housing estate, whether at Fernihurst or what have you, you are drawing people from all parts of the country, people who do not necessarily know one another and a whole set of time now has to be given for the development of that sort of community, whereas, if you move persons from Emmerton and take them to one place at Clapham, or if you move people from Church Village and take them to Valerie, you are moving a community and you tend to retain many of the values of the community. It is in that context that these acquisitions are being presented before this Honourable Chamber.

I move that the Senate do now concur in this resolution.

The question was put to the Senate and agreed to.

Mr. PRESIDENT: The debate on the first resolution may now be resumed.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: I am sorry, Mr. President, I would just like to make a.....

Mr. PRESIDENT: What are you speaking on?

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: I am sorry.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I had said that the debate on the Treasury Bills had, by agreement, been postponed until a later stage in the Sitting. We will now resume debate on that resolution.

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORISE THE MINISTER
RESPONSIBLE FOR FINANCE TO BORROW BY
THE ISSUE OF TREASURY BILLS FURTHER
SUMS NOT EXCEEDING ONE HUNDRED
MILLION DOLLARS AND SUCH SUMS
AS MAY BE REQUIRED TO PAY OFF
AT MATURITY BILLS ALREADY
LAWFULLY ISSUED AND
OUTSTANDING.**

To resume debate on a resolution to authorise the Minister responsible for finance to borrow by the issue of Treasury Bills further sums not exceeding one hundred million dollars such sums as may be required to pay off at maturity bills already lawfully issued and outstanding.

Mr. PRESIDENT: It seems that Honourable Members in the interim have satisfied themselves about that resolution. Does anyone wish to speak?

The question is that the Senate concur.... Senator Greaves I have given you plenty of opportunity.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: I am sorry. I regret that I had to leave the Honourable Chamber at the time when I did and if you could just enlighten me as to which resolution we are considering now.

Mr. PRESIDENT: The Clerk has just read it. The one that you asked earlier on to postpone.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: I would like to speak on it. Mr. President, I thought that a resolution of this nature would have occasioned at least some kind of contribution, indeed, some kind of information from the Honourable Leader of the Senate, particularly, in view of the fact that this resolution is seeking to give the Minister of Finance and Planning the power to "borrow further sums by the issue of Treasury Bills not exceeding one hundred million dollars". Now, I believe, at a time when we in this country are faced with what has been described and what everybody in Barbados, perhaps, with the exception of certain members of the Government, where we are faced with a virtual collapse of this economy and particularly, in the area of Government finances, that we have come here this evening and have this kind of resolution introduced and we are not, as it were, given a review of the state of this economy.

I think that this is a very, very, serious matter, no doubt. Just let me make this other point that I think that Honourable Members must demand a better treatment from the Government in these matters because one must be worried about the pace with which the Government sought to introduce this resolution.

Certainly, we in the Democratic Labour Party recognise that the Government is in very serious trouble, we realise that if this Resolution does not meet with the approval of the Senate — because the Senate has to concur in the Resolution — that Civil Servants would not get their pay next pay day. That is the stark reality of the situation with which this country is faced. I do not care who would get up and deny that. That is a fact. Civil Servants would not get their pay if this kind of power is not given to the Minister of Finance and Planning to increase the amount of money which can be borrowed under Treasury Bills.

The Resolution is put in very sweet terms. We are told that there are Treasury Bills which have reached maturity, the Government therefore needs the money to meet this and what have you. I heard Senator Seale in an intervention which might be premature stating that this has to do with the Central Bank calling on the commercial banks to, I believe, have greater reserves,

or something to that effect, but the fact of the matter is that Treasury Bills are raised from time to time to meet the financial commitments of the Government. And it might very well be, I do not have any doubt, that Treasury Bills are maturing and money might be needed for this purpose, but I want to say that this Resolution underlines that it is a fact that the Treasury has been so depleted by the reckless financial policies pursued by the Barbados Labour Party, and the fact that the Prime Minister in my view has not a clear understanding about the nature of this economy and the kind of policies that would bring some measures of stability to this economy, that we now find ourselves faced with the situation where this country is in a very serious financial and economic state. That is really the nature of the problem with which we are confronted here this evening. We do not have to be easy about it, we do not have to dress it up in any flowery language or try to get around the problem by, as it were, dressing up the Resolution in the way in which it has been dressed up here.

If the Government cannot meet the commitments on the Treasury Bills because it does not have even enough money to pay its employees, or *vice versa*, if by meeting the commitment on the Treasury Bills then it does not have enough money to pay its employees, and also to pay for the goods and services which are delivered to the Government from time to time, then it is fairly obvious that the Government would have to find ways and means of dealing with this situation, and the route of the issuance of Treasury Bills is the route which has been taken by this Government.

The Democratic Labour Party, and I believe that all reasonable people in this country, even supporters of the present administration, must become concerned and indeed alarmed at the tremendous amount of borrowing which has taken place in this country and which continues to take place in this country. It is a cause for concern. Where are we all going to end? Because when all the borrowing is finished with the day of reckoning will come. I do not believe that this Government has finished borrowing yet. There was a strong belief that last week — and my information on the state of the economy was that it was in such a perilous state — that last week the Government had to look around to raise, I think the figure which was quoted was something in the vicinity of \$50 million, if it was to meet its commitment. It had to meet it within a matter of days, and it is no surprise that this Resolution was brought into the House of Assembly yesterday at a very late hour and was hustled up here today without any warning or any notice. (ASIDE). I hear the Leader of the House, which I should not even regard, but in a *sotto voce* remark asking if any honourable member did not expect to be faced with this Resolution here today.

This, I think, is a very serious matter. It is a matter which ought to be treated.... As I said, Parliament should not be treated in any contemptuous manner with this. We ought, and we from this side we do demand the true facts of the situation. You hear one set of people who represent the Barbados Labour Party and who have spoken in debates pointing out that there is no economic crisis in this country, we are just going through a little storm. They talk about the rain and the sugar crop and all of the problems. They are trying to indicate that this has nothing to do with the management of the economy, that we are part and parcel of a world situation and therefore have no control of what goes on in other countries. We do not have any control of the Arabs who push up the price of oil, we do not have any control of the businessmen in the United States of America or other places from where we get our goods and services, and we are, as it were, price takers. But it would seem, Mr. President, that Barbados since 1976 — because that seems to be the time, according to the supporters of the Barbados Labour Party, that was the time when Barbados began, 1976 and after — but when in 1974, in the mid seventies, this economy, like other economies throughout the world, had to face very very suddenly, and, as it were, without warning, the astronomical increase in the price of oil, when for I believe about 20 or so years we have never had the kind of drought in Barbados that we experienced during that period, when faced with all those problems, quite naturally our agricultural production went down. We had to weather that storm, and by 1976 when the Democratic Labour Party lost the Government we had been able to bring the economy back on an even keel, so much so that we were able to bring the inflation rate down to 2%, and what is significant, Mr. President, is that whenever the Barbados Labour Party talks about making comparisons between their period of administration and the period of the Democratic Labour Party administration, they would always go back to 1974 or 1975 when, admittedly, the rate of inflation was pretty high.

The Central Bank Report covering the year 1976 would indicate very, very clearly the state of the economy at that point in time, in 1976. They do not make that kind of comparison, but I am saying that 1981 is a very interesting year.

From the beginning of the year and right up to the election day, the 18th June, we had a picture painted in this country that I believe that we Barbadians believed we were living if not in Paradise, as near to the state of paradise as we could possibly hope for. That was only 18th June. What happened on the night of the elections and subsequently? The Prime Minister, immediately on re-election, started to talk about harsh measures, about things not after all being as good as they were made to believe, but, of course,

the election had already passed. When we really examine the situation, when we examine the words which had been used to paint the rosy picture, when we examine the words which had been used by the Prime Minister now in defence of the very dangerous and difficult situation which he by his misguided policies has placed this country in, we are indeed left to wonder what manner of man is the Prime Minister.

Let me give you an example: In the Financial Statement which was made in Parliament a couple of weeks ago, you know he had the temerity to get up and say that the people of Barbados should all know that we since 1979, I think that was the year, we were importing oil from Venezuela and that the Venezuelan oil is the most expensive oil in the world, and therefore how do you expect him to operate when he has to buy oil from Venezuela which is the most expensive source in the world. But this was the same place that we were importing oil from only in June 1981 when the Light and Power Company told the public of Barbados that they were reducing the price of electricity because there was a glut of oil on the world market and therefore the price of oil was coming down.

Mr. President, I really do not know honestly who to believe in this situation. The Prime Minister at that time did not indicate to the people of this country, in my view, what was the true state and nature of the economy, and I think that we in Barbados and we in the Democratic Labour Party are very concerned about this. We are now faced with a situation where we are asked to support this Resolution. We are citizens of this country and we certainly regard our responsibilities as such, and we would demonstrate to the Barbados Labour Party that we have no alternative but to support this Resolution. We cannot vote against it because, as I said, you would then turn around and say that we do not want the Civil Servants to get paid, because this is really what this Resolution is for, for the Civil Servants to be paid and for the Government to meet its commitments.

We are concerned, as I said, about the incidence of borrowing which has taken place and which is taking place in Barbados. Are we able to meet our commitments in this area? I believe if you look at the millions of dollars which we now have to provide in the Estimates to repay the various loans which have been borrowed, we can see that this economy has reached a very dangerous level. We in the Democratic Labour Party do not gloat over the difficulties which the present administration now finds itself in, because it is going to affect all of us. We are concerned. We are very concerned that when we offered what we considered to be sound advice, critical though we might have been about the measures which were pursued by the Barbados Labour Party, and pointed to the dangers

to which these measures were leading, we were laughed out of court, we were ridiculed and all sorts of comments were made. People were accused of all sorts of things, but today what we are seeing is that what was predicted by the Democratic Labour Party about the outcome of the policies which were being pursued by the Barbados Labour Party has come true, and it makes me very sad to see that this country has reached this stage.

I am satisfied that, if there had been a better management of our resources, a deeper understanding of the true nature of the economic situation and the way how this economy of ours works, we would not be in that kind of position today. I heard that reference or at least a comment, has been made by the Prime Minister and by people who repeat him, as it were, like a parrot that we have had a short-fall of \$43 million in the sugar industry. (A VOICE: You know different?) Now let us just look at that. Up to now I have not been able to get the real position on this \$43 million. Is it that because of the fact that the reaping of the crop was not completed that we have lost \$43 million? I hear some voice from the other side talking about the start of the crop, and because the crop did not start on time we lost \$43 million. I would like the Government or anybody from that side, any of the wise men or wise women from that side to demonstrate to this Honourable Chamber how that has come about. When we are talking about that, I am taking my time on this. I was going home early, but I have changed my mind because this is too serious a matter. I neglected a parental duty this evening to stay here for this.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Please address the Chair.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Yes, Sir. They talk about \$43 million. I would like to have that demonstrated.

There has been a lot of mis-information being spread in this country at a number of levels about the Sugar Industry and the 1981 sugar crop and I just want to say this that the late start of the 1981 sugar crop had nothing to do with the Barbados Workers' Union.

I will explain. When in November last year the Barbados Workers' Union served notice on the Sugar Producers' Federation that we were making a bid for some of the windfall earnings in the sugar industry they sat down and practically ignored us. The first attempt that they made to us was on the 28th December, 1980, the first attempt, and then they made such a ridiculous offer as \$393,000. Did you expect us to accept that?

They moved from there when they came then in January and they moved it to \$4 million and said take it or leave it when the sugar industry had got an additional

\$26 million in excess of what they had indicated would be their total earnings in the 1980 sugar crop. We said that there is no way that we could accept that kind of situation.

One of the leading lights — I say that rather than at least letting them be easily identified — one of the leading lights from the Sugar Producers' Federation said at the meeting, and this is on record, that as far as they are concerned, we can take the crop. They are not supposed to reap the 1981 sugar crop. That was the attitude which was displayed by the Sugar Producers' Federation in this country and, even when the agreement was concluded, Mr. Speaker, and I am not going to go into all of the manoeuvrings, etc. that went on with the Government and the Sugar Producers' Federation. I am going to leave that out. We can take care of that on the political platform but there is a lot that we can say about that.

When the agreement was completed, do you know that the sugar factories, most of them, were not even ready, Sir, were not even in the state of preparedness to start the crop? Yet one would hear this nonsense about that Barbados Workers' Union being responsible for the crop not being started and what not. I could go on on this. We are supposed, I believe, to be responsible for the weather which came in and the fact that we are moving from a situation where the reaping and loading of canes is shifting from the manual to mechanical. I do not want to go into the sociology of that. I believe that everybody knows.

Again, it has nothing to do with the Barbados Workers' Union, nothing to do with the Democratic Labour Party, nothing to do with the Barbados Labour Party but it is a sociological fact of life that people are moving away from the arduous back-bending and back-breaking works in the sugar industry. At any given opportunity you will find that people will look for a job which they consider to be less strenuous. This is a fact of our development and not anything that is peculiar to Barbados. It happens all over the world.

This has nothing to do with the fact that the average age of workers in the sugar industry is over 40. If you look at the statistics put out by the Labour Department about the number of workers in the sugar industry below the age of 40, you would be appalled. I do not think they have 50 but when, therefore, you shift your production or your harvesting or your loading from the manual to the mechanical and you find then that you have the influx of rain, unseasonal rain as it is called, then your machines get stuck in the mud or they cannot go in. All of those are the facts.

This, in my view, is a very clear case for anybody who has studied the sugar industry to understand and so I thought that that should be on record and put very,

very clearly. When we talk about this short fall of \$3 million, what I want to find out is whether or not the Government had premised this \$43 million in foreign exchange on the basis of what they hoped to gain from the prices when the sugar was sold overseas, whether this had to do with the canes which were not reaped, or whether this had to do with what might have been the losses as a result of the slowness in the reaping of the crop. I want to find that out.

Let me make this point. The pricing of sugar is not done or controlled by the Barbados Labour Party or by the Sugar Producers' Federation. This is done in other places and by other people. We are price takers. We produce a very small margin of the sugar market and if we do not produce sugar, this year, next year or the next ten years, it would not make any difference at all to the total sugar stock in the world. It would not make any difference. (ASIDES)

I am talking about that in relation to prices and how we arrive at prices. That is all I am saying. It makes a difference to this economy. I recognize that. I am talking about it in relation to prices internationally and what I want to find out is if this \$43 million which you said you have lost has been lost because there has been a drop in the price of sugar on the world market. If this has been the reason for the shortfall in the \$43 million, then I say that for the Government to base its strategy and its plans on that kind of situation, bearing in mind that 1980 was a windfall year and we had unusual surpluses in 1980. If, therefore, you are going to plan your economy based on a windfall situation and the wind gets licked out of the sails, you would understand what is going to happen.

All I am saying is that if this is in truth and in fact what was done, and I believe it was done, this has all been done to present a glowing picture and all of that kind of thing. We are now faced with the situation where we now recognise, in my view, that that was bad planning.

I believe that there was an overestimation of the sugar receipts in this country because the receipts were based in my view on a windfall situation which everybody knew could not obtain for too long. (ASIDES) You were living in Mars, that is why. We are now faced with this situation and we cannot get away from it. We cannot get away from the fact that we are in very serious economic difficulties.

The Rt. Hon. Prime Minister introduced a budget statement in September, that is, this month, where he raised, or where he is attempting to raise, money by various routes. Also, presumably to help the Government out of its present crises. These measures, for example, the transport levy, are measures which are creating

tremendous hardships on the poor people of this country. The increase in bus fares for the users of the public transport including the school children, where school tickets have been raised from \$1 to \$4, and if there is a transfer involved, that is an additional \$2 for each child, I am submitting, Mr. President, are going to cause such hardships on such persons that I would not be surprised if trauncy, or maybe not trauncy, but, there would be a number of people in this country who will be unable to send their children to school. Let me give you a classic example. Before....

Mr. PRESIDENT: What about sticking a little more closely to this resolution. You will have plenty of scope for these excursions, but I want this debate more confined to this resolution.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: I was moving towards it.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I notice that you have a tendency to throw oblique shots and bring out things that really are not relevant to the issue. Try and be a little bit more concerned with the resolution itself.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: I am very concerned about this resolution, very, very, concerned about this resolution and the overall impact, Mr. President, which is what I describe as the misguided policies of the Barbados Labour Party Administration, a clear misdirection and a clear misunderstanding of our economy. All of these things have led us into this situation here now and whereas, as I said, we are concerned about this, we recognise the very dicey situation which the Barbados Labour Party Administration has placed this country in. (ASIDE: Francis Bell understands the economy better)..

Mr. PRESIDENT: Try and ignore these asides, Senator, let us get on with the business. Order, Order.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: I would appreciate, Sir, if you would control the Honourable Leader of the Senate. He is interrupting me.

Now, when we talk about Treasury Bills, (ASIDES) when Treasury Bills, Mr. President, are issued in Barbados, let us face it, who are the people or the institutions that would take up the Treasury Bills? Let us examine that. Basically, Treasury Bills are bought by firms, large firms, medium sized firms, large medium sized firms or the larger proportion of them are usually taken up by commercial banks and insurance companies too. What this means is that when you get commercial banks going in and buying up these Treasury Bills or even insurance companies, it means that there will be less money available to the average person who might want to go into the bank and get a loan, not necessarily for the purpose of buying a ladder or a motor car for that

matter, but, maybe purchase a house or to build a house or something in that way because it means that there will be, in my view, less money which would be available in this situation for these areas because of the fact that the commercial banks would have intervened in the issue of Treasury Bills and would therefore have diverted some of the money which they might have been using, or might have been able to use for other areas and for other purposes.

So that, we see this as something that further focuses on the particular problem and can have an effect on the particular problem which we have identified here. I think we are very concerned, I recognise, Mr. President that you have indicated that my excursions into the general economic area and my stringent criticisms of the Government are not — well, that I will have other opportunities to deal with that. I thought that this would have been a useful opportunity this evening, but it looks as if there would be other opportunities later on, but I am really waiting for those opportunities because I really have not yet had an opportunity to really talk yet. I cannot get my teeth into this economy, into this economic thing because things are bad, Mr. President, they are really bad and I really wonder if we in this country realise how hard things are through the reckless spending and the reckless decisions which have been made by the Barbados Labour Party Administration.

So, Sir, we are forced to— we cannot vote against this because we understand the reasons behind it. Civil Servants have to be paid and this is what this is about — to pay Civil Servants.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Seale.

SENATOR C. D. SEALE: Mr. President, Sir, I get the distinct impression,....

Mr. PRESIDENT: Just a minute Senator Seale. If my memory serves me, did you speak on this resolution before?

SENATOR C. D. SEALE: I thought it was on a point of explanation, but, I am sorry, Sir.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I had the impression that you made a speech. Senator Simmons.

SENATOR D. A. C. SIMMONS: Mr. President, I shall not be long because I have to make some strictures against the Honourable Senator who just spoke as I made last week, that is, that his speeches seem now to be mere generalisations without any particularisation. But, today, he has added a new dimension, that of sensationalism, obviously to catch the headlines and there are people who take him at his word and publish all about this country that Government is raising this money that we are asking to concur in today for the sake of paying Civil Servants.

He made a wild statement, a sensational statement for the purpose of catching headlines.

Now, in this Manifesto, which was written for June 18, 1981, one comes across many programmes, some for immediate, some for medium term and some for long term implementation. They who in September are willing to accuse the Government of having misguided policies, who are willing to say that the economy was in a bad state all of 1981, and they knew it, could still find the gall to foist on the public of Barbados a document like this with all these grand plans, presupposing that things were good, or reasonably stable. A document in which they were willing, as from July this year, if you believe them, but I do not believe them, I am just taking their words as words, they were willing to offer the old age pensioners not \$28 a week but \$35, and then the leader of that party could go on the public platforms and say 'well, don't mind the document, it has a lot of typographical errors, it is not really \$35, we will give them \$40.' Things were bad and they knew it.

"In 1974 the economy had to face suddenly and without warning the astronomical increase in the price of oil and at the same time there was a severe period of drought stretching back for about 20 years." That is what the Hon. Senator Greaves said during the course of his speech. I would like to submit, Sir, that there may be some similarity between September 1981 and 1974 to the extent that there can be no doubt that the sugar industry has taken a beating this year. No one could have forecast, as of January, indeed, as of March 31 when the budget was delivered, that the vagaries of the weather would have persisted for as long as they did, or that the pound would be down to \$3.50 or \$3.60 now. In all the speech made by the Hon. Senator this afternoon he has not taken into account, in rationalising the loss occasioned to the economy, the value of the pound sterling in the current world market and how that could adversely affect the receipts for sugar.

I say I am not going to be long, Sir, because it is not a speech, the speech made by the Hon. Senator is not one that should call for a long reply because it was too generalised in its nature. But in 1974, when he says things happened suddenly and without warning, the level of inflation in Barbados then was 40%. That can be found in the Central Bank Report for 1975, but for members of the Democratic Labour Party, their own Manifesto of 1976 — that is, at least one of them, there were two blue and gold documents published, but the thicker of the two — recorded that inflation had risen to 40% in 1974. No way under this Government, the Government of the Barbados Labour Party in the last five years, has there been such an increase in inflation.

While on the subject of increases, I want to make what I consider a realistic statement about increases. It

seems that every time Barbadians are called upon to pay any increases there is a hue and cry, except where that increase relates to an increase in the dues payable by members of the Barbados Workers' Union. You do not hear anything about that, you may see a little notice on the front page of the Advocate, but there is no adverse or unfavourable comment made. But people have got to understand that in today's world everything has a price and you have got to pay for it. Barbadians would leave here and go to New York and quite gladly take out of their pockets at the toll stations one dollar and hand it to the man to get from Queens into Manhattan going, and coming back the evening do the same thing, the equivalent of four Barbados dollars. They would quite happily do that. You drive a car in New York and you have to pull your pocket to get into Manhattan. There is a Bajan woman there too — you find them all over the world — collecting the dollars. But if you are asked to contribute to a transport levy in Barbados, it is an imposition, it is unfair to the poor people, and all of that you hear. They go to England and pay high prices on the tubes and the trains. I was just there. It costs very nearly a pound to get from the High Commissioner's residence to Waterloo, nearly five dollars, when the pound is at \$4.80, of course.

Bajans will pay the high prices on the tubes, but then within their own country they expect everything to be free and gratis. How are we to survive? Those are developed countries; those are countries from whom we get aid or grants, but they have these high prices. But poor countries like Barbados expect that everything must be free. I am not going to assist in the promotion of these values in this country. I do not have a seat now, and it does not matter to me. I want to do what is right and I have to make it clear from where I stand today that the time has come, indeed it had come a long time ago where people must understand that various services which are provided have costs. Obviously, there are sectors of the society where the people who make up that sector are not as well off and are deserving of assistance, and any Government in a developing country or a developed country has a responsibility. I believe that most will not shirk from that responsibility in providing assistance to those who are worse off in the society. It is from the same kind of philosophical position that the Minister of Transport and Works has said that where the bus fares now being charged to school children are proving oppressive to parents, a scheme has been set up from which these persons can get some assistance to ameliorate the hardships.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I do not want you to follow the last speaker in these excursions away.

SENATOR D. A. C. SIMMONS: I was just replying to some of the points he made.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Well, I tried to stop him.

SENATOR D. A. C. SIMMONS: I am going to come to the substance of the Resolution, but obviously the Resolution would provoke, in its nature, a discussion on the economy by reason of the fact that Government is having to borrow money.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Keep as closely as possible to it.

SENATOR D. A. C. SIMMONS: I am going to try and keep as closely as possible. Treasury Bills during the last five years and the previous five years have been common features of Parliamentary life. From time to time, Government has had to borrow for various reasons and, from time to time, Government has had to borrow because of the time of the year, especially when the cash flow position of Government is not as strong as at other times. So it is no surprise that we are faced today with a request to concur in this Resolution for the Treasury Bills. I have known in the Other Place on two or three occasions a year, I remember certainly two in one year, when we had similar Resolutions, but because Government has had to bring Resolutions such as this before Parliament it should not lead to the conclusion posited by the Hon. Senator virtually that the country is in a state of bankruptcy. It should not lead to that conclusion, I am not saying that Government is well off, but I am saying that the measures introduced have been introduced at this stage, as I understand it, to prevent the country from falling into situations which have overtaken other countries including some in the Caribbean. (A VOICE: The IMF is here.) Now you see that! I am going to respond to that even although it is *sotto voce*. He said for the press that the IMF is here. The IMF have come to Barbados every year, not now. The World Bank people come to Barbados and make an assessment of the economy. They used to say there was an IMF man in Barbados in 1976, soon after we took over. Whom they accuse of being IMF is the man who is helping to develop a new format for the Estimates brought down by the last Prime Minister. I mean Rt. Hon. E. W. Barrow. But, Sir, in 1976, before the elections of that year, the then Prime Minister, I think it was in his budget in June, warned the country that he did not have any give-aways because he had had four years in which this country had seen negative growth under the Democratic Labour Party. So he had nothing to give, but, he warned, and I am looking at the economic strategies, that Government might find it necessary to activate the Hire Purchase Credit Control legislation, that is to say, in simple terms to put restrictions such as those that were imposed in 1977 in terms of consumer credit and that have recently been imposed, I think, on September 8 this year.

If the Democratic Labour Party had got back into power in 1976, the writing was on the wall that you would have had credit restrictions. Perhaps it would have

been left to us to accuse them of bringing in coal pots and going back to coal pot days; but they had planned for it. It is there in the Budget Speech of 1976, and on an appropriate occasion I will read the words into the record as I did in the Other Place. So, indeed, in 1974 and 1975, there was an economic crisis in this country.

When we got into power there was some confidence restored to the economy and that confidence has remained. I have not seen any evidence of a shift. Government has to borrow money because of the shortfall in receipts occasioned by a drop in receipts in sugar and in tourism. I am not now going to attribute blame in respect of the sugar industry. Some of it has to do with the unseasonal rains, some of it has to do with people's sociological attitudes, some of it has to do with the lack of responsible industrial relations practices. I am not saying on which side at this stage. Of course, there is a way round that. You can make the crop start early and the Barbados Labour Party Government has to understand now that sugar is too crucial to the existence of each one of us for the country to be asked to tolerate, under any guise, sabotage, delays or whatever. There is a way to deal with it. It can be dealt with. This society wants some discipline. It is up to Government to set the lead, and I am calling on the Government this evening to set the lead in this society by instilling some discipline. Starting with sugar you can move on to tourism, because there is no point in saying that tourism is one of the commanding heights of the economy and we are a socialist party and we are not going to do anything to instil discipline and to get some control in there. The public now wants a positive lead. It is up to the Government to respond.

What I would do I will say on another occasion. You have indicated that I know. There will be many occasions when we can outline what some of us would like to see done.

In 1981, given a fall off in receipts from two of your main foreign exchange earners, surely Government must, in order to carry on its programme, adopt some form of borrowing. My only complaint about borrowing is that when you borrow you must know that you have the ability to repay.

The former Prime Minister, now Leader of the Opposition, used to say that he did not care about borrowing because he would not have to pay for it. His children and his children's children would have to pay for it. You mortgage the country. This money is being borrowed locally. I believe that, given favourable conditions in the next year, Government will see itself out of these problems.

You know why I say that, Sir? Because I have confidence in the ability of those who are currently managing the affairs of Barbados to ride out this temporary setback.

Now in 1974 when we were told that things were bad by the hon. Senator, they had suddenly to face astronomical increases in oil and you had a drought for twenty years and all of that.....(ASIDES)

Mr. PRESIDENT: I wish hon. members will desist from these constant interruptions.

SENATOR D. A. C. SIMMONS: Yes, Sir, I would give way and let him elucidate. In 1975, this is the picture at December, 1975 painted by the Central Bank. I quote from page 17 of the Central Bank Report for December 1975:

"Construction

Activity in the construction sector continued to decline. In the public sector no major projects were started and the applications to the Town and Country Planning Office for permission to erect new buildings were at the same level as in 1974. The number of houses built by the National Housing Corporation (NHC) fell from 357 in 1974 to 195 in 1975.

Tourism

For the first time since tourism became a major economic activity, the number of visitors arriving in the island declined. The 106,709 tourists arriving in the 1974/75 winter season (December 15 to April 15) were seven percent fewer than in the 1973/74 season. This pattern continued and by the end of the year the number of visitors was four percent lower than in 1974. The decline in the number of tourist arrivals follows a period of slow growth in 1973 and 1974."

So there you have construction and tourism. I am not going to go into every one, Sir. I am talking about employment on page 19. In the manufacturing sector of employment in 1974 do you know how many people they were able to employ? Three hundred and forty persons were employed in a whole year. This should be a Bible for you in the Opposition. It should be a Bible.

Sir, I cite those pages for the purpose of comparison. There you had in 1974/75 two very difficult years when the major sectors of the economy were in decline and yet we were able to come out of

that period of decline and ascend the graph again to a high in 1980.

We have had a temporary set back this year. I am not one who is so blind as to say that the economy of Barbados performed well between 1976 and 1980 exclusively by reasons of some superskills on the part of Government measures. I am not saying that at all. It performed well because of some skill and some ability but also because of some luck. Let us face it. The same open-ended economy can only survive and perform well consistently if luck is with you consistently.

If we had the type of weather we had this year last year and a fall off in tourism you would find it, so some of it is luck, Sir. Let us be reasonable about this and this year the luck has run out so before all of us die or starve we have to take the necessary corrective measures.

The corrective measures are going to occasion some slight hardships, belt tightening as it has been called, or fastening of the seat belts. There will be no starvation. Starvation is not something that is common to Barbados in the last ten years, no. You will find the odd person who wants work or who cannot work, and who wants work or who can work and wouldn't work. There are a number of variables. He may go for a day without having anything to eat but he would have his stomach full with a bottle of rum. I do not deal with them. They do not say that they are starving. There is no malnutrition in Barbados. Before the election it was common for the Opposition to make these wild allegations.

Before I get side-tracked into responding to *sotto voce* comments from the other side, the measures that have been introduced by Government including this borrowing, Sir, are necessary to ensure that as far as possible, this country continues to make some progress. We were warned in July in the Throne Speech not to expect a growth rate this year of anything like 6% or 7% as we may have achieved in 1979. We were warned to look for a 2% growth rate.

Even if we achieve a 2%, and I am not saying that we should be satisfied but even if we achieve a 2% growth rate, we would have done, despite all of this borrowing that they are complaining about and the bus fares and the transport levy, we would have done better than the Democratic Labour Party were able to do in any one year from 1971 to 1976 and the difference is this, Sir, and the difference will be this, that the approach of the Government of Barbados today is one of courage.

In the period 1976 to 1981, the Government was not afraid to take stirring measures in the interest of the survival of the economy. In the period 1971 to 1976, the Democratic Labour Party never showed that it had the political will nor the courage to take the corrective measures that were necessary. We in this Chamber, unlike many outside, do not suffer from short memories and indeed all of us will recall a speech by Mr. Branford Taitt one night on television speaking of a crisis and warning the country of a black Christmas and advising that we share baths, that we share lifts in motor cars. Panic stations followed that brilliant, gloomy speech by Mr. Taitt. Within days the then Prime Minister arrived in Barbados and was asked whether there was a crisis.

He said, "What crisis, what? As far as I know there is no crisis", completely at variance with the Minister of Trade and perhaps with a great deal of skill or more skill and tact trying to reassure the country. I am putting that on it, Sir, that construction on it. He may genuinely not have known that there was a crisis because he was then recharging batteries in Miami and had been for six months so he may not have known, but, in the whole of this exercise since the 8th September, the Government has not sought to play down the current difficulties. The Government, I believe, in pursuance of their philosophy of open Government, the Government has levelled with the country and said these are the problems, we have lost \$43 million, otherwise, perhaps, we would not have to take such drastic steps. This situation is no different from an ordinary individual.

I may plan genuinely to repair my house for Christmas and paint it up for Christmas and plan to spend \$3 000 and, all of a sudden, in November, some catastrophe that I had not at all envisaged befalls me and I have then to use that money. This is what has happened in Barbados in September. Budget estimates, Government's financing of projects, all of these were based upon an assumption of reasonable returns from tourism and sugar, these and manufacturing. Manufacturing has tended to hold up, or at least exports of manufacturing, Sir, but the other two have fallen short and below expectation. So you now have, as Bajans say, "to cut and contrive" and that is what is being done.

So, I have no difficulty in supporting this resolution and the Opposition must support it and I want to insist that they cannot be heard to say, it does not lie in their mouths now to say, "we told you so". You can say so but destroy this because when you wrote this, what you were projecting in there was based on an economy as you knew it in June, as you believed it to be vibrant and buoyant.

I am obliged to you, Mr. President.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Howell.

SENATOR StC. E. HOWELL: Mr. President, it is with some degree of sadness that I rise to speak on this resolution. But I think, from this Side, I would be failing in my duty if I did not respond to what I considered to be the wild and indeed, almost irresponsible statement made by the Honourable Senator without making some response. A number of things have been said...

Mr. PRESIDENT: Just a minute. Senator Greaves, just say what you want to say.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. President, I just want to draw to your attention that there is a Rule which deals with conduct of debate.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Just tell me what your point is about.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: I just want to draw to your attention that the Honourable Member has indicated that my speech was wild and irresponsible and there is a Rule which deals with rules of debate which says — under 34.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Do not worry to quote the rules to me. You are making a point of order that you object to the words the Senator used?

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Yes, Sir.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Howell, would you like to change those words?

SENATOR StC. E. HOWELL: I withdraw those words without reservation, Mr. President, but, I would draw to the attention of Honourable Senators, the statement that was made by the Honourable Senator, "the Government is in very serious trouble, Civil Servants will not be able to receive pay, the Prime Minister has no understanding of the economy". It is for Honourable Members to interpret those statements to the best of their ability.

At no time did the Honourable Member appear to justify any of these criticisms. He made no attempt, for example, Sir, while he spoke on the tremendous amount of borrowing, to emphasise at the same time, that, at no time during the period of 1976 to 1981, the period when that particular statement was being made continuously, that when Honourable Members of the Government stated specifically that this country throughout that period and indeed, Sir, up until today, has one of the lowest debt financing ratios in the Caribbean. That has never been challenged. My understanding, Sir, is that up until the election, June 18 that it stood at about 2½%.

So, to say that the amount of borrowing is very high or to indicate that it is so high, without at the same

time making it clear that in order to finance that debt, we, in this country have been in a position which other members of the Caribbean found most favourable, he spoke critically of the \$43 million that was said to be a shortfall of \$43 million because of the cane crop season, the very bad harvest, yet, at the same time, he also pointed out that he was not clear as to the true picture. He criticises that, in view of the fact that the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister did not know what he was doing, this country was in a dire state of affairs. Yet, although he criticises so many of these factors he still says at the same time that he is going to support the resolution.

Mr. President, I join with Senator Simmons and the Honourable Leader of the Senate in saying that the resolution is good and I will support that resolution. The criticisms that have been made by the Other Side have been by and large unfounded. I beg to support the resolution.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Barrow.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. President, I have to be thankful to the last speaker because in fact he managed to make more sense of what Senator Greaves said than I had understood Senator Greaves myself to have communicated to the rest of the Honourable Chamber. Even when I was here for most of the time, hoping indeed, to escape the painful illogic of the Honourable Senator's efforts, I found myself wondering, how can a politician of so many years standing really get up and, on a simple every day economic topic, talk the kind of thing I was listening to the Honourable Senator talk? In fact, Sir, even when he sat down, *sotto voce* he said there was no difference between foreign borrowing and local borrowing.

Even when he sat down he was still talking in his sleep, because I believe that the newest fledgling in any debating chamber understands immediately that there has to be a difference between foreign borrowing and local borrowing.

Now, I did not rise to reply to that point, Sir, I rose to reply on the point which Senator Simmons did not deal with, and I believe that Senator Simmons and Senator Greaves share the same evaluation there of what Senator Greaves had said. If I understood Senator Greaves a little while ago, he said 'I have nothing to say'. If you have nothing to reply to, indeed you have nothing to say, and I agree with him, but it is very dangerous for anybody to get up and say that he cannot understand where this figure of \$43 million comes from, and how the \$43 million loss comes about, when that person is regarded as a fairly senior person in politics.

In the first place, Sir, if your crop is delayed and you are being paid, as we are being paid, in a basket

of European currencies, and European currencies are losing value against the U.S. dollar, and our currency is pegged to the U.S. dollar, every time that we are supposed to be paying ten units in a basket of European currencies, every week there is a delay a unit of European currency loses value, in actual hard and real terms we receive less money. (ASIDE). Sir, Senator Greaves just said that is true. I now understand the problem, nobody ever told him before. (SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: I said that explains it. That is what I said).

Mr. PRESIDENT: Please let us have less interruption.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: I am trying to make a point which I believe the Senator is capable of understanding. I am going to try it from the other end. If I have £100 in my pocket and I wish to buy something in the United States of America and the pound is valued at that point at 2.4 U.S. dollars, that money will buy me today when the pound is valued at about 1.8 U.S. dollars, that money is going to buy me less if I am buying American currency. These, Sir, are matters which everybody understands these days, except Senator Greaves.

We started a crop which, had we finished in the usual time, we would have been able to sell the whole crop at prices higher than we ended up selling a lot of the crop at. That is one point, Sir. (ASIDES).

Mr. PRESIDENT: I must insist that there must be less of these interruptions.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: There have been times, for example, Sir, when the excess over what we were marketing under our agreement we have been able to hold when prices were high and sell on the world market at higher prices. If, however, you come in at an amount which is below your target and which is below what you have to sell within the context of your agreement, you have nothing to sell on the world market whether prices are high or low. In short, Sir, we are in a situation where we market under an agreement, but such sugar as we produce in excess of the amount which we are to produce under that agreement, we are free to sell to the highest buyer. When the crop is delayed, the amount that you have, if you have any at all, will obviously bring you less if you have to sell it in Europe when European currencies are losing value against the U.S. dollar. That is the plain, simple fact in terms of the financial aspects of the marketing of sugar.

I know what is Senator Greaves' problem. I was told when he was in the Other Place he never used to talk on financial matters, and I understand why. He must not believe that, because he does not understand anything about it, there are other people who do not understand either.

The other aspect of the sugar crop problem, Sir, is this, and I am speaking here from a background of personal knowledge. There are persons whose lands were not prepared for mechanical reaping. This, now, is nothing to do with the mechanical reaping aspect of it. They reap in the old way. The labour shortage produced problems earlier, then when you began to settle down with the labour supply, the rains then produced a situation where the few imported labourers would have, in fact, to look elsewhere, because they cannot just sit down and wait on a promise of employment, and there are instances in this country where on particular farms or estates something like half of the crop had remained in the land.

It is all right to come in here and talk, but we must not really look facts in the face and then turn our backs to them. If you have substantial acreage left in the land, there is no way that you can look at anybody and suggest that there is not substantial loss, because the expenditure has already, in large measure, been incurred, plus the fact that a man has the right to earn a living out of his soil anyhow. So there was a whole combination of circumstances, and clearly the worst was the weather.

If you are to refuse to accept these as objective facts, then every statistician we will have to question, every meteorologist we will have to question. The people who publish the information on money movements up and down we will have to question too. We will have to question everybody under the sun except Senator Greaves. I believe, Sir, it is time that we recognise that it cannot be a mature or reasonable approach to politics simply to stand up and make statements because they will catch headlines, when in fact we know, and deep down we know, that we ourselves have little evidence to support those statements. (ASIDE). You find a Standing Order to catch that one. You cannot get it in, I tell you.

Mr. President, I have taken much too long in fact, because I am really dealing only with a single point, and let me just emphasise the point. All of the evidence is there. One, crop starts late; two, we have had the worst weather the crop has ever been exposed to; three, you have the labour shortages; and four, you have the fact that you have paid for your product in a basket of European currencies and those currencies have lost value against the U.S. dollar to which we are pegged.

These are the factors that explain the serious loss incurred in the sugar industry, and the real problem which we have now is this, that if we look down the road with so much of the crop from this year left to be reaped at the beginning of next year's crop, there is bound to be a decline in sucrose content and therefore we have to fear that we will not realise anything like what we would normally have hoped from the sugar crop next year. This

is why the signs of the times are not for one year but for two.

Again, if we look at the fact that the growth in tourism is not sustained, and we look at what is happening in the economies where our tourists come from, we have not got a reasonable hope that tourism receipts will pick up at the rate next year that would be necessary to offset the losses in sugar, and, thirdly, if we look at the third plank in the economy, manufacturing, the growth in our manufacturing sector has been sustained, but it has never nor does it at present seem to promise, it has never been anything like as dramatic as, the growth which we have been able to get in the tourism sector. These must be taken and added to an additional factor. When we talk about the manufacturing sector, we import the machinery, we import the raw material. When we talk about the tourism sector, the tourist dollar has to buy a whole lot of things outside of Barbados to sustain the same tourist industry within Barbados. Sugar alone is the one that, when it brings a dollar in, nearly that whole dollar stays right in here in this economy. These are things that we just have to face. We can take a knock, and the economy, we believe, is strong enough for us to ride it out, but we have to do a little belt tightening at the same time.

We cannot, however, expect to treat a loss in sugar in the same way, as we can treat loss in another sector of the economy. We cannot expect to do it. As I said at the opening, the point about the issue of Treasury Bills is that if you want to curb consumer spending, you have to take some liquidity out of the economy, and in addition, Government receipts in August have always been low. It has always been the worse month for Government receipts and then in October and November you get corporation taxes coming in. September is always a month when Government finances have to be bolstered up, whether by drawing on the Central Bank account or by issue of Treasury Bill, one or other form of borrowing. In short, Sir, we are not here dealing with anything that is difficult to understand, if once we apply our minds to it. If we believe that it is serving the interest of our country any time that things are not as rosy as we have managed to have them under the management of affairs by the Barbados Labour Party, if certain members of the Senate and certain members of the Democratic Labour Party believe that, just because the Barbados Labour Party is in control, nothing can ever go wrong, we take the compliment, but, surely, Senator Greaves must be sufficiently realistic to understand that, even when his colleagues ran the ship of state, it would have been unfair to have accused them of total incompetence, and, therefore, we can only assume that the appropriate judgment for him to make is that, had they still been in power, things would be worse than they are today, but not simply to express disappointment,

because, even under the Barbados Labour Party, things are a little rough right now. We like to take the compliment that is inferred by the high expectations of Senator Greaves, but we know that things are tough right now and we are not going to hide it. But we do not think it is fair, quite frankly, to the reputation of the country for people to start screaming all sorts of nonsense and looking for headlines unnecessarily trying to run down a situation that is bad enough as it is.

We will pull this country around. We have done it before and we will do it again, but we will have at the same time to involve the entire country in the exercise, just as has had to be done before. We need to take money out of consumer durables and put it into productive enterprise. When we increase Treasury bills by \$100 million, that is a fair amount of money to take out of circulation. We are not taking out all at one time, but the potential for taking that out is there, and when the Central Bank now requires that 25% of the reserves be deposited with it, we are going to soak up, again, some more of that. We have to soak up that liquidity which the Banks have and, if the tactics work, Mr. President, and the demands for financing the productive enterprise work, then the raising of the interest rate may well result in the banks bringing in money from abroad and, in this way, storing up our foreign reserves. All of these are important tools in the economic kit.

Mr. President, I have spoken at some length largely for the benefit of Senator Greaves. I believe, Sir, we can vote on the Resolution.

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

THE ADJOURNMENT

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now adjourn until Wednesday, 30th September, at 2.30 in the afternoon.

SENATOR W. W. HALL: Mr. President, I just crave your indulgence to speak on this motion because on page 5 of the Minutes.....

Mr. PRESIDENT: Pardon me!

SENATOR W. W. HALL: I would like to crave your indulgence to say a few words on the motion simply because I am rather meticulous about Minutes and although it slipped me and I profoundly regret not having said anything before, on page 5 of the Minutes you will probably find under the section "Adjournment" we seem to have closed last time at 12.02 p.m.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I have taken note of that mistake and I have corrected it.

SENATOR W. W. HALL: You have, Sir, well I only say so for the benefit of the other Senators on the other side.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Just for the benefit of Hon. Members on that particular issue, as you will have noticed, the Upper House does not confirm Minutes. I check the Minutes and if there are obvious mistakes and members seek for themselves, will they please just draw them to the attention of the Clerk or myself.

The question that the Senate do now adjourn until Wednesday, 30th September, at 2.30 p.m. was put to the Senate and agreed to, and Mr. President adjourned the Sitting accordingly.
6.35 p.m.