
THE SENATE DEBATES

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION 1981 – 86

THE SENATE

Monday, October 17, 1983

Pursuant to the prorogation, the Second Legislative Session 1981–86 was opened by His Excellency the Governor-General in the Senate Chamber, Public Buildings on Monday, October 17, 1983 at 3.12 p.m.

The following members of the Senate were present:

Senator the Honourable Sir Arnott Cato, K.C.M.G., (President).

Senator the Hon. N. A. Barrow, (Minister of Information and Culture; Leader of the Senate).

Senator the Hon. O'B. Trotman, (Minister of State).

Senator the Hon. C. A. Griffith, (Minister of State).

Senator H. R. Linton.

Senator Mrs. E. M. Lynch, G.C.M.

Senator J. E. D. Williams.

Senator Miss J. Clarke.

Senator Mrs. M. O. Reece.

Senator D. A. C. Simmons.

Senator E. E. Greaves.

Senator A. W. A. McClean.

Senator C. D. Seale.

Senator the Rev. Canon I. McK. Jones.

Senator Mrs. G. G. Reader, M.B.E.

Senator L. A. Ward.

Senator C. E. Jemmott.

ABSENT

His Honour Senator J. C. W. Wickham, M.B.E., (Deputy President); Senator St. C. E. Howell, (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance and Planning); and Senator W. W. Hall.

ARRIVAL OF GOVERNOR-GENERAL

His Excellency the Governor-General, escorted by the President of the Senate, entered the Senate Chamber and took his seat.

Prayers were read by Dr. the Rev. Lionel Crawford.

SUMMONING OF HOUSE TO SENATE CHAMBER

His Excellency the Governor-General called upon the Sergeant-at-Arms to summon the Members of the House of Assembly.

Members of the House of Assembly, preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms and the Marshal, entered the Senate Chamber and took their seats.

His Excellency the Governor-General then delivered the Throne Speech as follows:

**SPEECH OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL
AT THE
OPENING OF PARLIAMENT
ON MONDAY, 17TH OCTOBER, 1983**

Mr. President and members of the Senate:

Mr. Deputy Speaker and members of the House of Assembly:

It is with deep regret that we note the absence from today's ceremony, of His Honour the Speaker of the House, The Honourable Member for St. Peter, who is recuperating from a serious illness which befell him some months ago. My wife and I join his family and many other friends and associates in wishing him a speedy and full recovery.

Since the end of the last session of Parliament, plans have been under preparation for the renovation and refurbishing of the Chambers of both Houses with a view to improving the facilities for members for conducting the people's business. It is hoped that the improved facilities, which have been requested by Members, will be available shortly.

Indications are that Barbados is on its way to recovery from the world-wide economic slump, and our economy has shown some signs of improvement during the first half of the current financial year. It is expected that real, albeit small, economic growth will be realised during 1983, so reversing the trends of the past two years.

The fiscal and monetary strategy adopted by my Government has resulted in an improved balance of payments position so far this year, while the policies of unemployment insurance and welfare assistance have served to cushion the hardships on the population resulting from economic recessions. This year, there has been a sharp decline in the rate of inflation and the most recent figures on the rate of unemployment are lower than at the same time last year. Government revenue for the first half of the fiscal year increased by some 20% over that collected for the similar period of the previous financial year, while the increase in current expenditure was contained at only 6%.

The strengthening of the public finances has meant that all of the International Monetary Fund targets have been met, and the remaining targets are also expected to be met.

My Government has prepared a new Development Plan for 1983-88. It will continue its export-led growth strategy in the new Plan period and will use the economic and social base, which was laid during the last Plan period, as a spring-board for generating further development from the country's limited resource endowment.

The newly formed Barbados National Oil Company has met with success in its drilling programme for oil and gas, and will continue the programme. The National Petroleum Corporation will upgrade and expand its distribution system and will seek to increase its sales for industrial purposes. A new Petroleum Winning Operations Act modernising the law relating to exploration and production of petroleum will shortly be introduced into Parliament. My Government is now in the process of finalising the grant of a licence for exploring for oil off the north coast of Barbados.

The Wind Energy project will shortly start and the possibility of feeding this power into the national electricity grid is being explored. Further, the generation of energy from solid waste is being investigated, and so too is the generation of wave energy.

My Government recognises the crucial role which Transportation plays in the social and economic life of the community. It further recognises that although our road network has served us well for over two centuries, it has not been adapted and developed to serve fully the needs of our modern industrial society. It is now necessary to undertake substantial investment in the construction of our new roads. The improvement of existing roads, already in progress, will be intensified in order to service the new industrial and commercial developments which are rapidly springing up across the country.

My Government proposes to construct a major new Industrial Estates Access Road which will commence at the round-a-bout at Paradise, Black Rock, and traverse the southern portion of the island and will terminate at Grantley Adams International Airport. Construction will start in the New Year.

The Arawak Cement Plant in St. Lucy is nearing completion and should start to produce cement by mid 1984. The shale for the manufacture of the cement will be quarried at Greenland, St. Andrew, and it is proposed to upgrade the road system from Greenland to the cement plant. The improved road system will also serve the new brick factory and the two sand quarries at Walkers and Springfield.

At this point, I am happy to say that the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago has graciously agreed to participate in the formal Opening of the Cement Plant later next year.

My Government proposes to continue with its programme of improvement of subsidiary and tenantry roads and will continue to devote a major portion of the Transport levy funds to this purpose.

My Government proposes to construct a modern garage and new administrative complex for the Transport Board. Steps will also be taken to improve its management capability and the programme of upgrading the fleet strength will be continued.

Agreement has now been reached on the use of the Shallow Draught Facility at the Bridgetown Port and the Inter-island vessels which now berth in the Careenage will shortly be transferred to the Shallow Draught.

Bearing in mind the important role of Air Transport Services in relation to the development of tourism, an aviation policy will be pursued which will ensure the highest level of airline capacity in Barbados' major tourist markets. Support will continue to be given to efforts towards regional arrangements for air transport in the Eastern Caribbean, and the continued development of the regionally controlled and operated airlines will be facilitated. New Air Services Agreements with the United Kingdom and Canada are being negotiated.

The tourism industry experienced a downturn in 1981 and 1982, the major cause being the onset of international economic recession. However, there are indications that the economies of the major metropolitan countries, especially the USA, are on the road to recovery and this has been reflected in the improvement of local tourism this year.

In order to consolidate our share of the tourist market and to improve our competitive position, the Government will emphasise the qualitative aspects of the industry during the new session and will take steps to maintain the standards which it sets. Hotel management companies will be brought under legislative control.

My Government recognises that many small hotel establishments have become marginal economic operations. In consultation with its financial institutions, it will promote mergers between the marginal operations with a view to achieving cost savings, greater efficiency in operations and improving their economic viability.

My Government will encourage the development of full service hotels outside of the high density areas on the west and south coasts while de-emphasising the construction of apartments which are at present in adequate supply.

It is my Government's aim to have the normal hours of work of shop assistants reduced from 42 to 40 per week; and within the next few weeks legislation will be introduced into Parliament to provide for more flexible hours of opening and closing of shops and the conditions of employment of shop assistants. Such changes in shopping hours will also relieve the pressure on public transport.

A Bill providing for greater security in employment, as well as a Bill seeking to outlaw discriminatory practices in employment, will also be introduced into Parliament shortly.

A draft White Paper on Industrial Relations has been prepared and circulated to the trade unions and employers' associations for comment. It is hoped to receive those comments shortly so that the White Paper may be finalised and laid in Parliament.

Steps are being taken to computerise the records of the National Insurance and Social Security Department so as to improve the general administration of the scheme and collection of contributions, and especially so as to facilitate prompt payment of benefits.

The expansion of vocational training will continue, with emphasis on the apprenticeship programme. The Skills Training Programme will be reviewed and adjusted so as to ensure that it continues to serve its purpose of providing shortterm intensive training to meet current needs in the labour market.

Sport will continue to be promoted at the widest possible level, and sport facilities will be expanded. Incentives will be provided with a view to retaining and utilising the services of talented Barbadian sportsmen in the region.

My Government will continue its policy of providing welfare assistance to needy persons. In this respect there will be a close liaison between the Welfare Department and the National Employment Bureau. All Welfare programmes will be rationalised in order to ensure their availability to a wide cross section of eligible persons.

The philosophy informing the Child Care Board's policy will be the provision of permanency in each child's life leading to the development of the Child's full potential. It is my Government's intention to continue to seek innovative and effective measures towards this end. It is accordingly planned to utilise the newly built Haynesville Day Nursery in St. James as a multi-purpose Child Care Centre. This Centre will service the residential and day care aspects of Child Care and will also be a centre for Parent Education Group Programmes.

My Government maintains that access to health care services is a basic human right. It is therefore its aim to ensure that all phases of the National Health Service will be fully implemented by December, 1984. My Government's policy for the National Health Service continues to be that every person in Barbados should have access to health services free at the point of service

and that every person should be able to go to the doctor of their choice.

In the area of Mental Health, my Government proposes to develop a sound community based mental health service integrated into the Polyclinics along with the necessary home care and other primary health care services. With the community based programme in operation, it is proposed to build a new Psychiatric Hospital on modern principles, providing a higher standard of care and supervision of psychiatric patients.

Further to my Government's policy on the care of the elderly, emphasis will be given to the implementation of a programme to ensure that as far as possible old people can be maintained in their families, homes and communities with the relevant social and health services taken to them.

A safe environment continues to be of great concern to all peoples. My Government is aware of the potential health hazards which are likely to arise from the existence of derelict properties and the improper disposal of sewage. It has built and commissioned the Central Sewerage System for Bridgetown and has instituted an intensive campaign on the cleaning up of derelict properties. In order to protect the south and west coasts and also our water system along the Belle area, my Government proposes to sewer the south coast and the Belle by mid 1985, and the west coast thereafter.

In keeping with my Government's commitment to law reform, the laws relating to consumer protection will be strengthened and the laws on Gambling and related topics will be revised and consolidated during this Session. Legislation will be introduced to reform various areas of the criminal law, including the law of evidence, sexual offences against children, and theft.

The Crime Prevention Panel will continue to serve as a link between the police and the public, and the Royal Barbados Police Force will be encouraged to revitalise the Police Boys and Girls Clubs.

Plans for the National Youth Service to be conducted by the Barbados Defence Force are now well advanced. Initially, the training will be voluntary, embodying all existing youth groups in the island. Volunteers will be expected to complete 240 hours of youth service over a two-year period. A programme of voluntary trade training for young people will also be undertaken.

My Government is committed to the Regional Security System and the Barbados Defence Force will continue to assist the Government in honouring its obligations under this Agreement. Further courses involving security co-operation with regional partners are planned in the coming months.

Expanded training will be provided to members of the Defence Force in order to improve its capability to carry out its functions of air and maritime surveillance. The Force will assist in the management of Aero Services Company which is now owned by the Government. It is intended to make maximum use of all aircraft in training in Search and Rescue when Aero Services aircraft are not required for commercial contracts.

As a follow-up to the construction of the Coast Guard base at Willoughby Fort, my Government plans to carry out improvements and extensions to the Pierhead. These will not only improve the Base Facilities but will bring the area into harmony with the Carlisle Bay plan which is currently under consideration.

Legislation will shortly be introduced to provide for the grant of the status of permanent resident to persons who are not otherwise citizens of Barbados, but are the children of women who are citizens of Barbados by birth. It will also provide for the grant of immigrant status to the children of immigrants.

A new Citizenship Act will shortly be introduced to streamline the legislation relating to citizenship. Provision will be made for persons who are citizens of Barbados by descent to be issued with a specific certificate of citizenship.

My Government will continue to participate actively in the regional integration movement of CARICOM since it is convinced that economic integration is the only viable option for Caribbean States as they seek to promote the social and economic development of their people. It will also continue to co-operate with its regional partners to remove impediments to the expansion of trade within the Caribbean Common Market; and it will seek to have the Common External Tariff critically examined with a view to improving the effectiveness of its tariff protection against third country imports of sensitive products.

In the field of international economic relations, my Government will continue to support efforts to reach a new International Sugar Agreement. It will work for a successor agreement to the Lomé Convention to secure better terms for exports of industrial and agricultural goods and commodities as well as to seek assistance for tourism development. Barbados will use the provisions of the Caribbean Basin Initiative to increase its exports to the United States.

With the completion of the new General Post Office next year, the programme for providing improved postal facilities will be continued. Participation in the equity of a locally registered company to provide external telecommunications services is being negotiated with Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd. A new

radio complex will be constructed at Whitepark, St. Michael, and a new satellite earth station will be constructed for the television service.

The National Cultural Foundation will be established before the end of the year as the executive arm of the Ministry of Information and Culture, responsible for the stimulation and development of cultural programmes.

My Government proposes a new thrust in housing. It will encourage and facilitate private developers and individuals to assume the initiative in the production of units, especially for the low-income families. The Government will expand its role in making land available on which the houses can be built. It will place emphasis on a Sites and Services programme under which vacant land will be prepared for housing through lot division, installation of water, roads and drainage. These lots will be sold on generous terms to prospective homeowners.

Government will continue to provide housing accommodation for renting and has in fact identified a number of locations for the development of multi-storeyed apartment buildings. A comprehensive restoration programme for the several housing estates of the National Housing Corporation will be undertaken.

Full agreement has now been reached with the United States Agency for International Development for a \$20 million housing programme. It will be conducted in accordance with my Government's new thrust and will provide for new homes, home improvement and expansion, and purchase of lots under the Tenantry Freehold Purchase Act.

Graeme Hall Swamp will be developed. It will include park and recreational facilities and improvement of the adjacent villages at St. Lawrence and Top Rock.

My Government will continue to stimulate agricultural development. An Agricultural Development Act will shortly be introduced into Parliament. This will emphasise the export of non-sugar agricultural products and consolidate and update the existing incentives for the agricultural sector.

In this new Parliamentary Session, legislation will also be enacted to help law enforcement agents to deal in a more positive manner with the problem of praedial larceny.

Renewed efforts will be made to promote and expand local onion and peanut production and other domestic fruit production. A National Fruit Orchard is in the process of being established.

Farmers will be encouraged to increase their output of beef and mutton, and support will be given to institutions to set up feed lots systems.

The advisory services available to the sugar cane farmer will receive the full support of the Government crop protection services in an intensified effort to eliminate pest and disease problems.

My Government will speed up the implementation of the Rural Development Project. This is aimed not only at agricultural diversification and the improvement of living standards of small-holders and tenants, but also at delivering such vital services as credit, irrigation and tillage.

The Government's thrust in the development of the fisheries sector will be heightened with the construction of a new fishing harbour in Bridgetown, a new fishing terminal at Speightstown and the upgrading of other fish landing sites around the island. Legislation will be introduced for ensuring the safety of fishermen at sea.

The reports of the National Advisory Commission on Education which was set up earlier this year are expected to provide a basis for re-examination of a number of areas of present educational activity, and my Government will consider them with this in view.

To enable private schools and private educational institutions more easily to provide education of satisfactory quality, opportunities will be made available for the training of teachers from these schools at the Erdiston Teachers' Training College.

My Government is convinced that there can be no more delay in providing Barbadians with the basic skills to enable them to operate and service effectively the hardware and software components of the computer and to attain a knowledge of this relatively new development. It therefore proposes to include this important subject in the curriculum of its Secondary Schools.

The programmes of the Barbados Community College and the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic will be more closely harmonized so as to reduce duplication. Particular emphasis will be laid at the Polytechnic on training for the electronic industries and trades while the College will provide opportunities for middle-management and semi-professional training.

Mr. President and members of the Senate:

I have the honour to inform you that, acting on the advice of the Prime Minister, I have today appointed Mr. Owen Seymour Arthur, Research Fellow of the Institute of Social and Economic

Research of the University of the West Indies, to be a member of the Senate in the existing vacancy. The new Senator subscribed to the appropriate oaths earlier today and awaits the opportunity to take his seat amongst you.

Mr. President and members of the Senate:

Mr. Deputy Speaker and members of the House of Assembly:

I have outlined to you my Government's programme for this new session of Parliament, and I extend to you my best wishes in your new Parliamentary Session and pray that the blessing of Almighty God may rest upon your counsels.

ON RESUMPTION

Mr. President in the chair.

Mr. President: I apologise for these make-shift arrangements, but I think honourable members understand what the position is.

The sitting is resumed.

MESSAGES FROM HIS EXCELLENCY
THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Mr. PRESIDENT: Honourable members, I have a Message from His Excellency the Governor-General, as follows:

"His Excellency the Governor-General has the honour to inform the Honourable the Senate that acting in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister, the seat in the Senate held by Dr. Waldo-Ramsay, was declared vacant on the 8th September, 1983.

His Excellency, the Governor-General further has the honour to inform the Honourable the Senate that also acting in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister, Mr. Owen Seymour Arthur has been appointed to be a member of the Senate under section 36(2) of the Constitution with effect from 17th October, 1983, to fill the vacancy.

(Sgd). D. H. L. WARD
Governor-General"

Will the Clerk please ask Senator Arthur to come in?

Senator Owen Seymour Arthur entered the Chamber and was escorted to his seat.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Arthur, on behalf of the members of this Chamber and myself, I extend a very cordial welcome to you as a member of this Chamber.

Although you are young in years, it is my understanding that you have already attained very high standards in the Public Service, both in Jamaica and Barbados, and also at the University of the West Indies in the Institute of Social and Economic Research.

I feel confident that your knowledge and your skill in the economic planning field will be of great value to this body, and in inviting you to take your seat, I wish you a very successful term of office.

SENATOR O. S. ARTHUR: Mr. President, I must first thank you for your kind words of encouragement and welcome. In joining you, I am conscious of the ideas and the tradition which the Senate represents and I can only trust that I will be true to that tradition and those

ideals, and that in my contribution I may prove to be a credit to the institution and may help to enhance the good spirit of this Chamber.

Thank you.

Cheers.

REPORT OF THRONE SPEECH

Mr. PRESIDENT: I have to report to the Honourable Senate that His Excellency the Governor-General opened the Session this afternoon, and made a Speech, of which I have a copy. The Speech will be printed and circulated to honourable members in due course.

I expect that, in accordance with our previous practice, any motions that are in connection with the Speech will await the printing and circulation. So that particular item comes up at a future date.

ADOPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: Mr. President, I beg to move that the Standing Orders of the First Session be the Standing Orders of this Session.

SENATOR THE HON. C. A. GRIFFITH: I beg to second that.

The question was put to the Senate and agreed to.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE OF SELECTION

Mr. PRESIDENT: The next Order is the appointment of committees. The first committee is the Committee of Selection. That Committee is appointed by the Senate as a whole and in accordance with the Standing Orders.

Standing Order 60 (1) reads as follows:

Committee of Selection

- "(1) (a) There shall be a Committee to be known as the Committee of Selection appointed at the beginning of every session to perform the functions allotted to it by these Standing Orders, and for such other matters as the Senate may from time to time refer to it.
- (b) The Committee of Selection shall consist of the President as Chairman, and four Senators to be nominated by the Senate. The Committee shall inform the Senate by means of

a report when any Senator has been nominated to any Committee."

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: Mr. President, I beg to move that the following Senators serve on the Committee of Selection:

His Honour the President
Senator the Hon. N. A. Barrow
Senator the Hon. O'B Trotman
Senator E. E. Greaves
Senator O. S. Arthur

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. President, I think this is a slight departure from procedure. I really do not know how Senator Trotman could nominate me to a committee. As I understand what happened last time, there was some consultation between Senator Barrow and myself as to who would be nominated from the Opposition to the various committees, and I thought we would have had that consultation. I have an arrangement for myself and Senator Hall on the various committees for which we are supposed to select people. I am not serving on any Selection Committee.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Greaves, let me just correct you on one thing. The Committee of Selection is appointed by the Senate. The last Committee of Selection had *ex officio* the President, Senator Barrow, Senator Griffith, Senator Greaves and Senator Linton. That was the Committee of Selection.

Senator Trotman is now nominating for this Committee of Selection: Senator Trotman in place of Senator Griffith, and Senator Arthur in place of Senator Linton. You, Senator Greaves, will remain on this Committee of Selection. What you are talking about, as far as I can gather, are those committees which are nominated by the Committee of Selection. When this Committee of Selection has been appointed, then the Committee of Selection meets and discusses who are the people to be on the other committees.
4.35 p.m.

Do I understand that you do not wish to serve on the Committee of Selection?

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Yes. That is the point I am making.

Mr. PRESIDENT: You do not wish to serve?

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: That is the point I am making. At least you should have asked me something.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Whether you wish to serve or not?

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Yes. How could you go and appoint somebody on a committee without asking the person whether he wishes to serve?

SENATOR THE HON. C. A. GRIFFITH: On a point of order: This is just a nomination. That is what I thought it was.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Yes. Senator Greaves can say, "I do not wish to be nominated." Evidently he does not wish to be nominated so we will put another nomination. Somebody else can put another nomination.

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: Mr. President, I beg to withdraw the nomination of Senator Greaves.

Mr. PRESIDENT: There are four members to be nominated beside the President. Further nominations.

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: Mr. President, we do have a bit of a problem because if you will note, all the committees seek to have representation in all departments. Senator Hall, as I understand it, is out of the country. I am not in a position to nominate Senator Hall who is out in India. If Senator Greaves is not going to serve for the nominated party, we do have a problem.

Mr. PRESIDENT: The Standing Orders clearly state that in the composition of these committees, attention must be paid to the constitution of the Chamber. It would be very unfortunate if Senator Greaves refuses to serve on the Committee of Selection and Senator Hall, the other Opposition member, is absent. It would be very unfortunate if we appoint a Committee of Selection, which is the most important Committee of the Senate, without a representative of the Opposition.

Senator Greaves, are you in a position to say whether Senator Hall would accept nomination on this Committee?

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: No, Sir. I am not in a position to say so.

Mr. PRESIDENT: In that case, it would seem to me that you would have to nominate an independent member. The committee has to be constituted.

SENATOR THE REV. I. McK. JONES: Can you nominate a person in his or her absence?

Mr. PRESIDENT: Provided that the person has expressed a willingness to serve.

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: The other complication which should be pointed out is that this com-

mittee has to be appointed first so that the other committees, except the Debates Committee, can be appointed. It is expected that the first meeting of the Committee of Selection would be this afternoon.

SENATOR C. D. SEALE: I would move to nominate Senator McClean as a member of the Committee of Selection.

SENATOR THE REV. I. McK. JONES: I beg to second that.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Are there any more nominations?

If there are no further nominations, I declare that the Committee of Selection will be: The President, Senator the Hon. N. A. Barrow, Senator the Hon. O'B. Trotman, Senator A. W. A. McClean and Senator O. S. Arthur.

The Standing Orders provide for the Standing Orders Committee, the House Committee, the Committee of Privileges and the Regulations Committee to be appointed by the Committee of Selection.

There are two other Committees: one is a Joint Committee with the House known as the Debates Committee and the other is the Library Committee.

Now, the procedure of appointing the Library Committee. Senator Trotman.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: Mr. President, I beg to nominate Senator Miss June Clarke and Senator John Williams to serve on the Library Committee.

SENATOR THE REV. I. McK. JONES: I beg to second that.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Any further nominations?

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: I beg to nominate Senator Hall.

Mr. PRESIDENT: You have discussed this with Senator Hall and he has accepted?

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Yes, Sir.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I am not clear if the Joint Library Committee permits more than the two members who we had serving on it before, whether we will have three members, in which case we would have to vote another. I will see what the Clerk says when he returns.
4.45 p.m.

We have had nominations for the Library Committee: Senator Clarke, Senator Williams and Senator Hall. My understanding from the Clerk is that it is possible for us to have three members. If there are no further nominations, I will declare that the representatives of the Senate on the Library Committee are Senators Clarke, Williams and Hall.

DEBATES COMMITTEE

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: Mr. President, I beg to nominate the following Senators to serve on the Debates Committee:

Senator the Hon. N. A. Barrow

Senator the Hon. Clyde Griffith

Senator Mrs. Milroy Reece

Senator the Rev. Canon I. McK. Jones

Senator W. W. Hall

Senator St.C. E. Howell.

SENATOR THE HON. C. A. GRIFFITH: I beg to second that.

Mr. PRESIDENT: The members nominated by Senator Trotman are the same five members who were on the Debates Committee before, with the addition of one other member, Senator Howell. Are there any further nominations?

If there are no further nominations, I declare that the Senate's representatives on the Debates Committee will be Senator Barrow, Senator Griffith, Senator Hall, Senator Jones, Senator Mrs. Reece and Senator Howell.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: Mr. President, I am commanded to lay the following:

The Leave Passages (Amendment) Order, 1983.

Statement of account on the transactions in rum in the several districts of the island for the months January to March, 1983.

Statement of account on the transactions in rum in the several districts of the island for the months April to June 1983.

The Annual Report and financial statements of accounts of the Barbados Industrial Development Corporation for the year ending 31st March, 1982.

The Annual Report and statement of accounts of the Barbados Port Authority for the year ending 31st December, 1982.

Statement showing the sums advanced to the Postmaster General for the payment of Money Orders for the months November and December, 1982, and January to June 1983.

Statements showing Money Order transactions through the Crown Agents for Overseas Governments and Administrations for the period November and December, 1982 and January to June 1983.

Annual Report of the Community Legal Services Commission for the year ending 31st March, 1982.

Instruments adopted at the 69th session of the International Labour Organisation held in Geneva in June 1983.

Report of the National Insurance Board and its Operations under the Severance Payment Scheme for the period 1st January to 31st December, 1981.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: I beg to move that this sitting be suspended for 15 minutes.

Mr. PRESIDENT: This is to do the business of selection of committees?

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: Yes.

Mr. PRESIDENT: It seems to me that it would save a lot of time if the Senate will agree to a suspension for about 15 minutes so as to allow the Committee of Selection to meet and nominate the Senators for the other Committees, rather than postponing that to some future date.

It would take a matter of 10 to 15 minutes and I would crave the indulgence of members to accept this suspension and come back so that we can tidy up this business of the Committee.

The question that the Senate be suspended for 15 minutes was put to the Senate and agreed to, and Mr. PRESIDENT suspended the sitting accordingly.
4.52 p.m.

ON RESUMPTION

Mr. PRESIDENT: This sitting is resumed.

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: I have to report to the Senate that the Committee of Selection has

met and has nominated members to the Committees which are enjoined to this House:

STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

His Honour, the President; His Honour the Deputy President, Senator the Hon. O'B. Trotman, Senator E. E. Greaves and Senator D. A. C. Simmons.

HOUSE COMMITTEE

His Honour The President, Senator W. Hall, Senator L. A. Ward, Senator Mrs. E. Lynch and Senator Mrs. G. G. Reader.

COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES

The President, Senator the Hon. C. A. Griffith, Senator E. E. Greaves, Senator D. A. C. Simmons and Senator H. R. Linton.

REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

His Honour the President, His Honour the Deputy President, Senator E. E. Greaves, Senator C. E. Jemmott and Senator C. D. Seale.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: Mr. President, I have been informed that the Other Place has passed a rather urgent measure this afternoon and under the circumstances I am seeking permission of the Senate to reopen "Introduction of Bills".

Mr. PRESIDENT: If there is no objection, the item "Introduction of Bills" will be recommitted.

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: Mr. President, I beg to give notice of a Bill to reform the Law Revision Act.

The Bill seeks to provide a method to rectify certain omissions from the revised edition of the subsidiary laws of Barbados in order to avoid any public hardship and inconvenience that might otherwise result from these omissions. The Bill also provides for related matters.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Has this Bill been circulated?

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: The Bill will be printed and circulated.

I should also state that because of the great urgency of this Bill, we would wish to resume the sitting on Wednesday, and at the appropriate time I will be moving a suspension until Wednesday at 11 o'clock, when we would hope to do the Bill in all its stages.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Let it be recorded in the Minutes that this Bill has been read a first time and order that it be printed and circulated.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: Mr. President, I beg to move that the sitting be suspended until Wednesday, October 19, 1983 at 11 o'clock.

Mr. PRESIDENT: In view of the apparent urgency of this measure, it would seem more appropriate maybe to suspend the sitting rather than adjourn and come back.

We want to know if members wish to express any views about coming back on Wednesday. I do not want to put the question before ascertaining that.

SENATOR D. A. C. SIMMONS: Sir, I propose 12 o'clock. It is cutting it rather close for people who have legal business. We have to start at 9 o'clock and sometimes we do not get a hearing before 10 o'clock.

I move that the suspension be 12 o'clock.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Considering that will be the only item, the sitting will be suspended until 12 o'clock noon.

The question that the Senate be suspended until 12 o'clock noon on Wednesday, October 19, 1983 was put to the Senate and agreed to and Mr. PRESIDENT suspended the sitting accordingly.
5.25 p.m.

ON RESUMPTION

Mr. PRESIDENT: This sitting is resumed.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES

Mr. PRESIDENT: I have to draw to the attention of the Honourable Senate that the Deputy President, who is ordinarily the Chairman of Committees, is away on leave, and it will be necessary for the procedure of Public Business that the Senate appoint a temporary Chairman of Committees for today's sitting.

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: Mr. President, I beg to move that Senator H. R. Linton be appointed Chairman of Committees for today's sitting.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Are there any other nominations. There being no other nominations, I declare Senator H. R. Linton appointed temporary Chairman of Committees for today's sitting.

THE LAW REVISION (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1983

Order No. 1 was called - To move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Law Revision Act, Cap. 2.

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: Mr. President, Section 3 of the law Revision Act, Cap. 2 of the Laws of Barbados, provides that the Governor-General shall appoint Commissioners to review the Laws of Barbados and in subsection 2 it states:

"The Commissioners shall cause to be prepared and published in accordance with the provisions of this Act a revised edition of the laws of this Island enacted or brought into force prior to such day as the Governor-General shall appoint."

The Act states that the revised edition shall, subject to section 11(3) be published in loose-leaf form and shall comprise such pages as the Governor-General authorises under subsection (2). Section 7 of the Law Revision Act gives the Commissioners power to omit laws under certain conditions, and these conditions are set out in subsections (a) to (h) of section 7.

However, Sir, the Subsidiary Laws of Barbados, as revised by the Commissioners, have been discovered to have omissions and it is now necessary to rectify that position. Section 22 of the Act states that:

"No law omitted under the authority of any provision of this Act from the revised edition, any annual supplement, the revised edition of subsidiary laws or any supplement thereto, shall be deemed to be without force and validity by reason only of its having been so omitted."

It therefore seems to the lawyers that the omissions which have been made in the recent subsidiary legislation have the effect of making those laws null and void.

The Bill which we are discussing this afternoon seeks to give the Law Review Commissioners the power to make an Order to bring those laws which have been omitted and which therefore seem to be now null and void back into force.

In section 2(2) of the Bill under discussion, we read that:

"The Law Revision Commissioner may by a Law Revision Order, remove, insert or replace such pages in the laws of Barbados as are specified in the order for the purpose of rectifying the omission from the laws."

So far, it has been discovered that legislation affecting the Income Tax Act, Customs Regulations, the Airport Regulations have been omitted and as well as the Land Surveyors Examination Rules. An effort is being made throughout the Civil Service to check the newly published legislation to see what other legislation has been omitted, and they will all be scheduled in an Order as soon as they have been discovered.

I beg to move that the Bill be read a second time.

Mr. PRESIDENT: It has been drawn to my attention that although the Senate at its last sitting agreed to come back and do this Bill, for what the lawyers call, the abundance of caution, since the Standing Orders require a certain amount of notice, it would be wise to formally suspend the Standing Order 45(2) before we proceed any further.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: Mr. President, I beg to move that Standing Order No. 45(2) be suspended for the remainder of today's sitting.

The question was put to the Senate and agreed to.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I think that is a proper formality.

The question that the Bill be now read a second time was put to the Senate and agreed to.

On motion of Senator the Hon. O'B. TROTMAN, the Senate resolved itself into Committee on the Bill, Senator H. R. LINTON in the Chair.

Clauses 1, 2 and 3 were called and passed.

On motion of Senator the Hon. O'B. TROTMAN, the Senate resumed and the Bill was reported as having passed the Committee without amendment, Mr. PRESIDENT in the Chair.

On separate motions of Senator the Hon. O'B. TROTMAN, the Bill was read a third time forthwith and passed.

THE ADJOURNMENT

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: Mr. President, I beg to move that the Senate do now adjourn *sine die*.

The question was put to the Senate and agreed to, and Mr. PRESIDENT adjourned the sitting accordingly.
12.15 p.m.

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