
THE SENATE DEBATES

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

FIRST SESSION 1991 – 96

SENATE

Wednesday July 3, 1991.

The Senate met in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings, on Wednesday, July 3, 1991, at 11.15 a.m.

PRESENT

His Honour Senator M. deL. Jordan, (Deputy President)

Senator the Honourable L. V. H. Lewis, (Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries) (Leader of the Senate)

Senator A. Morrison

Senator Mrs. V. C. Fraser, B.S.S., J.P., M.C.F.A.

Senator Dr. F. W. Alleyne

Senator Mrs. M. Barker-Welch

Senator Mrs. A. Straughn, G.C.M.

Senator J. G. Bellamy

Senator J. A. F. Cole

Senator T. E. Barker

Senator Miss M. A. Mottley

Prayers were led by Rev. E. Massiah

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The Senate is in session.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS: Mr. Deputy President, I am commanded to lay the following document:

The Annual Report and Audited Financial Statement of the National Petroleum Corporation for the period April 1989 to March 1990.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

Order No. 1 was called – To move the passing of a Resolution to approve the amendments to the Barbados Physical Development Plan 1970.

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS: Mr. Deputy President, this Resolution seeks the approval of this Senate for the amendments to the Development Plan which are contained in a document which was circulated to Honourable Members on May 14, 1991, entitled The Barbados Physical Development Plan, amended 1986.

It is provided, Mr. Deputy President, under the section 5 of the Town and Country Planning Act, Cap. 240 that the Chief Town Planner prepare development plans for approval of the Minister and Parliament.

A Development Plan, Mr. Deputy President, consists of a Report of a Survey along with detailed statements represented in a plan which is intended to indicate the manner in which it is proposed that the land in the island be used over a given period of time. The aims of the plan are basically to satisfy the social and economic goals of the society as far as is practicable through the creation of an efficient physical structure and the development of a good environment.

The policies and proposals which are found in the Physical Development Plan provide a framework for the ongoing process of planning decisions by Government over a period of time. So that the Development Plan, Mr. Deputy President, represents a very critical aspect of the planning system.

The first Physical Development Plan for Barbados was produced in 1970, and was laid in Parliament in 1976. The present amended plan which amended the 1970 Plan was amended in 1986. Apparently the work on the amendments started and it was publicised in 1983 following

an exercise of public participation. Then in 1986 a public enquiry was held under the Chairmanship of Mr. Justice Colin Rocheford. Following upon that enquiry certain modifications were made to the plan, approved by the appropriate Minister, finalised in 1988, and gazetted. The Plan was introduced in Parliament in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

The original Development Plan, Mr. Deputy President, attempted to control and rationalise a hierarchy of settlements spread evenly over the country and indicated growth areas in Speightstown and anticipated in Oistins Regional centres. On a plane below these there was proposed development of districts identified at Belleplaine in St. Andrew, Holetown in St. James, Welchman Hall in St. Thomas, Nestfield in St. Lucy, Four Roads in St. John, Six Roads in St. Philip and Charles Rowe Bridge area in St. George. It is intended or anticipated that around each of these locations there would be development of population centres and at another level there will be some 58 village centres which will be catchment areas to provide for daily needs.

The structure was based on an anticipated development growth pattern which would have seen Barbados having a population of some 350 000 people by 1985. However that did not materialise and we believe we can certainly say that the population does not exceed 300 000 on the island at the moment. Obviously, all of us are aware that there probably are more Barbadians living overseas than on the rock. However, as a result of the shortcomings in that forecast it has now become apparent that certain of the anticipated developments did not materialise. Indeed around the periphery of what was known as the greater Bridgetown, there have been several changes, many of these have been structural changes. Among these has been the development which resulted from what was originally to be the outer ring road which eventually found itself becoming the highway stretching from Top Rock, coming in a semi-circular fashion to join up with the road leading past the University on to the road leading out of Bridgetown which is described in some places as the Industrial Access Road and at some stage in the development of that road there was a spur added to it which takes one off on the highway from the roundabout at Graeme Hall straight through to Grantley Adams Airport.

11.25 a.m.

However, the Physical Development Plan is aimed at influencing the physical growth and it ought to be a check on the development of undesirable characteristics which had been in evidence before a plan came into existence. So that the Plan's strategy seeks to rationalize the urban corridor with various urban areas and also identifies suburban areas. It clearly demarcates Central Bridgetown which retains its importance as a national centre and also the areas of Speightstown, Oistins, and Holetown. Noticeable developments along the urban corridor which

have taken place are at Wildey, Warrens, and Worthing which have become clearly identifiable suburban centres and also certain developments which have taken place at Six Roads in St. Philip.

In this structure, Mr. Deputy President, the Plan outlines the implications of national settlement development strategy for the management of these growth areas. Attention is also called to the need for the expansion of integrated rural development programmes in certain agricultural settlements located in the centre of the Island and certain other eastern parts as in St. Philip and North as in St. Lucy and St. Peter. In certain settlements, it is clear that the manner in which the development of the land is contemplated will see the provision for more viable vegetable gardening and fruit cultivation, livestock development, and also for the creation of larger holdings through the absorption of vacant and under-utilized landholdings.

With regard to land use development, Mr. Deputy President, some deviations from the first proposed land use policy have occurred particularly in the 1960's and early 1970's when some potential agricultural lands were unnecessarily subdivided for residential purposes. To facilitate the planning and control of land use, the Plan specifies defined limits to the urban development zone and proposes strategic urban and rural land use policies to guide us in the future.

The policy, Mr. Deputy President, of careful preparation of all arable lands for agriculture is restated in the Plan. Let me say for the "doubting Thomases" that it is the commitment of the administration of today that no arable lands whatsoever will be released for use other than for agriculture. It is also the intention of this administration to bring back certain lands which were permitted to go out of use of agriculture and to direct as far as is possible within the law that they be put into fruit crop production or other productive activity in order to try and obtain scarce foreign exchange through the export of crops. This policy will be proceeded with and at the same time there is restraint upon the limit of the urban growth on this Island.

The manufacturing sector, for instance, continues to be identified as a key growth sector in the strategy for economic development and it is expected that it will continue to generate more jobs. This proposed future industrial development will have to be located in Christ Church, St. Peter, St. Lucy, and St. Michael for the most part. The Industrial Development Corporation will continue to have its responsibility for the development of estates but private industrial estates dispersed at private sites will continue to be encouraged.

The current national economic development strategy seeks to achieve a higher value added for tourists by attracting higher income strata to the tourist market. The

existing hotels will continue to be provided with encouragement through the Ministry of Tourism and it is anticipated that employment will continue to rise. There is a lot of talk about eco-tourism. All I can say about that is that the Ministry responsible for the environment understands that it has a responsibility to clean up the environment and to make available for tourist activities those areas of the Island which are natural such as the gullies and rain forests. When one talks of forests in Barbados, some people get very amused. It is a fact that many, many years ago the forests of Barbados were cleared in order to plant sugar cane and other crops. There is no reason why with proper planning areas of forests in Barbados cannot be developed again.

The Ministry of Agriculture is committed to participation in a tropical forestry action programme which will ensure that there is further development in areas like the Joes River Forest and that that effort which has borne some fruit will be duplicated in various parts of the Island. The specific areas are yet to be identified but there is a commitment to participation in a tropical forestry action programme which will see development of many forests on the Island. Over and above that, Mr. Deputy President, provision is made in the Plan for identifying of recreation and conservation areas. It is proposed to pursue the contemplated National Parks Programme which has been talked about for many, many years and we believe it will now see something happening.

Quite recently the Soil Conservation Scotland District Board has been reconstituted. It has been reconstituted in such a fashion as to enable it to pay more specific involvement in the development not only of the Scotland District but of the areas which were identified north and south of the Scotland District as part of Barbados National Parks Programme. The mandate of that new board is to investigate whatever possibilities may lie in the creation of a Scotland District Authority which responsibility will include total coordination of all of the infrastructural development that is required in the Scotland District. In addition, it will have responsibility for directing the activities in relation to the further development of orchards for the Ministry's effort to improve the fruit crop production in Barbados. It is not generally known that the Scotland District provides and has the sort of soil foundation that will permit Barbados to become self sufficient in nearly every fruit that is eaten on the tables in Barbados. The aim is not to become self-sufficient in fruit, necessarily, or only, but rather to seek to grow sufficient fruits that Barbados can become an exporter of a large majority of the crops which are presently imported.

11.35 a.m.

In addition, quite apart from the need for reforestation in the Scotland District, it is intended that use be made of the substantial amount of water that presently exists in the Scotland District, some of which filters or runs into the sea.

It is intended to develop the sort of ponds that the water can be used. One example of this, which presently exists, is the work which has already been done by the Ministry of Agriculture – the development of substantial ponds near the Greenland Area. This water from the ponds is being pumped into tanks and then it trickles back down for irrigation of the fruit trees which are in the Greenland area. A visit to that area would be worth anybody's effort and energies.

In addition, Mr. Deputy President, the Scotland District will provide further opportunities for cattle farming in the island. In pursuance of the Ministry's commitment to carry out the provisions of the Plan in terms of development of livestock on the island, this Honourable Senate is aware of two important pieces of legislation, one of which is before a Select Committee; the other was passed by Parliament towards the end of last year relating to stray animals in one instance, and in the other one, seeking to come to grips with the effects of praedial larceny.

The Plan itself, Mr. Deputy President, is quite a revealing document and if only it is possible to energise the bureaucracy so that much of what is written in here can be achieved, then Barbados would be marching forward into the 21st century. Under a section of the Plan which relates to physical planning concerns, on page 20, it says:

"The first Physical Development Plan made recommendations for the reduction of the number of sugar factories from nineteen (19) to four (4), increased mechanization, use of irrigation in order to increase yields as well as for measures to improve the living conditions of estate workers. The plan also advocated market gardening and diversification of agriculture, development of agro-based industries, fuller use of agricultural lands in the Scotland District, and conservation of all lands capable of economic agricultural production."

I quoted that, Mr. Deputy President, to emphasise the position which Government supports still, although the Plan was written a few years ago. To a large extent, it is Government's intention to prosecute and to continue action as set out in this particular section. In the case of the sugar factories, they have already been reduced from nineteen to four. I have information which suggests that there is need for a further review even of the four, but that is a matter which is the responsibility of the private sector and they must pursue it themselves.

The question of irrigation: the Ministry has already undertaken substantial activity to facilitate the provision of irrigation through two means. One, by the provision of the services in some areas and secondly, by the provision of a grant to those persons who instal irrigation facilities and are *bona fide* farmers who are entitled to a rebate of some fifty per cent of the cost of that installation.

With regard to the proposals for additional market gardening and the diversification of agriculture, this is a continuing programme. In pursuance of the commitment to develop agro-based industries, the Agricultural Development Corporation is responsible for sponsoring the establishment of a company called Barbados Agro-Processing Company Limited, which is fully into this question of the development of agro-industry.

In terms of Government's commitment, Mr. Deputy President, towards fisheries development, the Plan refers to the proposed developments of various fish landing sites. This is a continuing commitment and negotiations are presently continuing for the development of sites at Consett's Bay and Skeetes Bay. In addition, a closer look continues to be taken of the Bridgetown Fisheries Complex and the activities there to try to ensure that the delivery of the service is, as was intended, in addition to certain repairs and refurbishment which are required at Oistins in Christ Church that are presently receiving the attention of the Ministry.

All in all, Mr. Deputy President, I am satisfied that the Plan provides a basic framework on which Government may build in the future in order that it may improve the delivery of services to the people of Barbados. It would be wrong for me to seek to draw your attention to certain areas of the Plan. They are all there for you to see. Many of them represent what to me is a commitment towards the development within the next two years or so of the Scotland District Authority. I believe that it is that area of the island that holds a large measure of hope for the export programme in agriculture which the Ministry is committed to bringing to pass in Barbados.

I would like with those few remarks, Mr. Deputy President, to move that the Resolution be passed.

SENATOR T. E. BARKER: Mr. Deputy President, I must confess that I thoroughly enjoyed reading this Development Plan. It taught me a lot that I did not know about this island of ours. I am very impressed with the detail and the planning that went into this Development Plan. However, as usual, I am distressed by the fact that the amendment was in 1986 and we are almost in 1996. So, the question we want to ask is why has it taken this long to bring such a worthwhile document to Parliament. I could only say that it is negligence on the parts of whoever are concerned that the document was not presented to this Honourable Chamber in a more timely fashion. The data relating to this Plan is 1983's information and we are now eight years since then. So, we are asked to approve a Development Plan based on data which is eight years outdated. Events have overtaken certain parts of this Plan and I certainly hope, Sir, that the Government will not... According to the Act by now the Chief Town Planner should be preparing another amendment, because every five years an amendment should be prepared. This is now 1991,

so we should be soon seeing the plan for 1991. I am not joking on this matter. This is a very serious matter. If the Development Plan sets out guidelines for development, especially the physical development of our island, and noting that we see certain things taking place which are contrary to this Plan, one is left to wonder if it is just an oversight or if there is something more sinister happening that this Plan is so late, almost five years after it was produced. Nevertheless, we are here now and I wish to make a few comments on the Plan.

11.45 a.m.

First of all, Parliament is asked to approve this Plan. No doubt you will get the support of us on this side. We have no problem supporting this Plan because we think it is worthwhile. But there is a further concern. If Parliament approves this Development Plan, anything that is done contrary to the Development Plan should not be approved by the Minister but Parliament itself should be asked to ratify any such deviation of the Plan. No Minister should unilaterally go against what is in here. Since we are asked to approve this we should, as a matter of policy, be asked to approve any deviation from this Development Plan. This is only but fair, otherwise you are wasting our time by bringing us in here to approve a plan, then some Minister comes and says, "Look, you are talking foolishness; this plan is for agriculture but I am going to take the decision and put it into housing" without coming back to Parliament for approval.

Now, the Plan, Sir, sets out the land use in Barbados. We note that Barbados has limited land area. But, on the other hand, almost all of our land can be put to some productive use. That is something that we do not understand in Barbados. We talk about Barbados being a very densely populated country and that is so. But unlike a lot of other countries, almost all of our land has some potential whether it is agricultural, mining, manufacturing or tourism activities. So we have a lot of land in Barbados. Do not let us fool ourselves that we are more populated. We have a lot of land in Barbados, so much so that we can afford to have 4 000 hectares, according to a section of the Plan of 1983 which is about 16 000 acres of land lying idle. We have more than enough land but we are not using it to the best of our collective ability.

My main concern, Sir, is that given the fact that there is so much vacant land, and that the development Plan identifies 4 000 hectares of land within the urban corridor which can be used for recreation, manufacturing, industry and housing, it annoys me when I see the rape of our arable land that has taken place over the last 20 years or so. I use the word "rape" because I can find no other suitable word to describe what has happened to our arable land in Barbados.

I am very glad that the Honourable Leader of the Senate who is also Minister of Agriculture has informed us that no longer would arable land be taken out of agriculture

and put to use for other purposes. I only wish that the Plan had come five years ago so that a lot of the development which has taken place, given his assurance, would not have taken place. Sir, he is a man to his word and I am going to take him at his word that there will be no further subdivision of arable land in Barbados for other purposes. He has made this assurance on the Floor of this Chamber and we can do no more, given that he is a man of honour, than to take his word and wish him all the best as he endeavours to protect our arable land resources.

Sir, we cannot afford a situation in Barbados where we are importing over \$200 million in food at a time when we are in the midst of the most severe balance of payments crisis we have ever had in our history as far as I can research. In the midst of all that, we are still having 4 000 hectares of land lying idle and we are importing over 200 million dollars in food whereas in 1986 it was \$175 million which was still too high.

I am calling on the Minister who is in this Chamber in his capacity as Minister of Agriculture to do whatever is necessary to ensure that very soon this high food import bill would be down to manageable levels. I do not expect it to disappear overnight, but in the next five years there is no reason why it should not be halved because we have the land here. If we would use it wisely we can have that food import bill reduced and, at the same time, increase our exports of agricultural and horticultural products. There is no reason why this cannot happen. All it takes is the will. The will must be there.

Sir, the 4 000 hectares I referred to as idle land, according to the Plan, most of it is in the Parishes of St. George, St. Philip and in the region of the Scotland District. Parts of St. Philip have the lowest rainfall in the Island. So it is understandable that some land there would be marginal in terms of agriculture. But I cannot understand, Sir, why in St. George, which, I think, is the parish with the highest rainfall, or close to it, we are going to have so much idle land there. It is nothing less than scandalous that the Lord has blessed us with parishes which have good rainfall and we in our collective wisdom have decided that we are going to allow valuable land resources to go idle especially in that important parish.

I am told, Sir, that a lot of the land that is lying idle – remember this Plan is based on data for 1983; we must bear that in mind – is owned by the biggest owner of agricultural land in Barbados, that is, the Barbados Government through the ADC. The ADC owns a lot of plantation and a lot of these plantations bring no credit to the agricultural sector. The ADC lands are among the worst kept lands in Barbados. If Government is serious about increasing agriculture they have to set their own house in order first. They have to get ADC cleaned up.

11.55 a.m.

We see sugar was reintroduced in the Belle. Now I pass the Belle almost everyday in going to and fro and what has happened in the Belle with regard to sugar production convinces me that we are not serious about the utilisation of our land resources in Barbados. Sugar cane was planted there and I note, Sir, that very little cane was reaped green; that is the first thing. It was like a standard practice that you could burn the canes in the Belle. And almost every field I saw ... And not only that, they were burnt and they were left ... I can carry you up there now and show you the cane that is left in the ground – tons of cane. I notice at one time a field was burnt and the burnt canes were put in heaps and left by the side of the road. You can pass now and see it. If that is how Government is going to proceed with agriculture I have one solution – get out of it and lease the land to people who can make use of it. That is the only solution. Because if what is happening in the Belle, in the River and in Bawdens is any indication of Government's commitment to agriculture the only solution is to lease the land because I am assured, Sir, there are lots of people in Barbados who can take that land, given the right incentive, and given the correct education and training and so on they can take that same land that they cannot get anything done with in the Belle, the same land that they waste time and my money growing sugar on, and then not reaping it, they can take that land and provide food and help cut down on the \$230 million that we spent on imported food in 1989.

Sir, a few years ago I had some visitors with me and I wanted to get some sour sops and I was told that the ADC had a sour sop project going down Bawdens. I enquired, and knowing me, I love to know what is going on in Barbados, so I went down there and I saw the operation. I saw the water that the Minister talked about. It was pumped from the hills. It is my land so I can afford to peep. The water was there in the tank, in the shed was the pump to pump the water but still the sour sop trees were dying for lack of water. And you know what happened: the pipe to carry the water to the trees had disintegrated as it normally does over time. But in the shed there was new pipe; the water was there; the pump was there and all it needed was two days work and a fellow to come and lay the pipes; two days work which is \$100 or thereabouts. For the want of \$100 those trees which could have been producing lovely fruits for the consumption of our local people, as well as tourist and so on, the trees were just there, not producing. So, I repeat what I said; if Government cannot use the land, (and they have not demonstrated that they can) get out of it, and set up a proper system where you will train young people, middle-aged people, whoever, and lease them the land so that they can make use of it.

It makes no sense to bring a plan here which is saying that we have so many thousands of acres of land lying down and the country is suffering. I am saying, Sir, that action needs to be taken. In here we get a lot of words, and with all due respect the Minister loves a lot of words. In the Scotland District he talked sweet: this is going to happen;

the next is going to happen. But nothing is happening. So, Sir, I am calling for action on agriculture and I feel that the land lease programme is one way of reducing unemployment, especially among our young people and at the same time increasing food security and exports.

That brings me to the question of irrigation. Now I always felt that there is no reason why the water that passes through the sewerage system should be pumped into the sea for the destruction of the coral reefs, because I am told that the water is so rich in nutrients and so on that it encourages the growth of algae and other marine life which would eventually destroy the coral that surrounds our island. I am glad that this plan mentions the fact that we can use the water from the sewerage system for irrigation purposes and I hope, Sir, the Government will read the plan. That is the first thing; they should read the plan. And secondly that they will try to implement some of the recommendations, because that is one way of increasing production especially in the dry areas, Christ Church, St. Philip and parts of St. Michael that are still in agriculture. That is the way they should go and I don't think it should be any more expensive than building Sherbourne. I would like the Minister to check on the economic and financial feasibility of such.

He mentioned the Scotland District and the water up there. The water up there is causing problems because since there is no coral stone the water runs off and takes the land with it. It is time that we get action. Now the Plan talks about building impounding reservoirs. Now I am not a technical person, but they mentioned impounding reservoirs, because given the fact that you don't have the limestone to catch the water you would have to do a certain other type of engineering. But the Plan mentioned building of impounding reservoirs in the Scotland area which can serve a lot of purposes. One, it can serve for irrigation purposes as is done in some part of the Scotland District already. It would help to stabilise the soil and also, Sir, we can use the water to create fish ponds. I am told that there is a good market for crayfish in Europe. Now it is going to cost money so I believe, Sir, that we can get back some of the money by going into fish and other areas. It is going to cost money. But then also, Sir, the benefits to the island... I am told that about one sixth of our land is in the Scotland District which is very susceptible to slippage and so on. So, I would like, Sir, Government to take action on these impounding reservoirs as one way of stabilising the conditions in the Scotland district and increasing the vast potential that is there, because it is too important an area, and every time the rain falls we lose more and more.

Since we are on to agriculture we must pay more attention to rural development because over the past we have had a lot of migration from the rural communities into the urban centres and it puts a lot of pressure on the urban centres. The reasons for the migration are manifold – the decline of agriculture in the rural areas, and secondly the fact that there are not enough services in the rural areas. I

know as a boy that the fellows who lived in the country could not watch the 8.30 show at the cinema because the last bus was 8 o'clock. They had to watch the 4.30 and maybe had to leave before the last bus and so on. So it is important, Sir, that we improve services in the rural areas and that is why I am glad that the Plan mentioned Belleplaine as a place where we can have more housing development and it can even become an urban centre in that part of the Island. So, Sir, I wish that the Government would take cognisance of the fact and as soon as is feasible try to develop Belleplaine to serve as an urban centre so that people then would be encouraged to remain in the rural areas.

Sir, a lot of attention needs to be placed in rural development because we still would like to see the population in the rural parishes stabilised. We can only do so if the people in these areas feel that they belong to the island in terms of the services they receive and all of that, as anywhere else. So that is one area that we have to work on because we cannot afford the urban drifts. What has happened is that when people leave the rural centres they eventually leave agriculture and the land that is left there eventually goes out of production and causes all sorts of difficulties within the rural areas. Sir, if you pass through the rural communities, you will notice that whereas twenty or thirty years ago almost all of the land in these communities were under cultivation, now because of the urban drift and so on you have a lot of gaps there where the old man or lady has died and the sons are no longer interested in living in an area where there is little or no bus service and no access to water or electricity is available. The result is that production in the rural areas has declined. 12.05 p.m.

This brings me to the question of housing. Sir, I can certainly remember one of the first debates we had was on housing and we were vocal on the point that Government's housing policy left much to be desired. Now this Plan was written in 1983 and I must emphasize that. The Plan seems to emphasize that we are focusing our housing developments in the wrong areas. Lots of housing developments have been targeted towards the middle and upper income persons. We know that there is a vast number of people in the lower income group who can never participate in that development. When you ask a man to pay \$30 000 for a piece of land and the fellow is working for \$200.00 a week, you see the enormous difficulty to own the land. Secondly, if you do get to own the land, then you have to put up the structure. The housing development that has taken place has left a large number of persons out there who are unable to fulfil this basic need.

Sir, when we were last the Government, we tried this with the starter home project. We recognized that this is a vital area in providing houses for people in the lower income bracket. Now between 1967 and 1977, especially in the early 1970's, a lot of good plantations including

Rowans and Frere Pilgrim which are in the high rainfall areas were taken out of agricultural production and eventually ended up in the housing market. What was the result? The result was that there was an over-production of development plots. Up to 1979, only 56 per cent of the lots that had been developed were sold.

During the thirty years when we cut up all of the good agricultural land such as Bagatelle and Wotton (I have a whole list here), the result was that we took all of this land out of agricultural production and the land just became idle because the demand was only for so many units. What happened with that? First of all, the developers sort of knew that they were not going to get all of the lots sold so they had to charge a higher cost in order to make back their profits. Secondly, the price of agricultural land as a result of the indiscriminate subdivisions also increased and the agricultural land then became out of the reach of the ordinary person. Then a lot of the agricultural land in the Belle and other places were sold to middle income people who had no interest in keeping the four acres in agriculture. They just planted a couple of fruit trees to say they are in agriculture. All they wanted were four acres of land because the price that they paid was not much more than you were paying for a house spot of seven or eight acres. As a result, the price of agricultural land escalated and pushed the ones who wanted to farm out of the market. We now have the waste in the Belle, Rowans, and other places. The programme which was developed to meet the housing needs was ill-conceived and misplaced and a lot of developed lots were unsold.

Sir, the Physical Development Plan revealed something interesting in saying that we only require 396 hectares which is about 150 acres of land. One hundred and fifty acres of land are all that is required to meet our housing needs. All of this talk about the demand for housing, according to the Plan, is not really there. One hundred fifty acres of land are all that we need, given the fact that there is a lot of land lying vacant now within the urban centre. We now do not have to encroach on the agricultural land because we have enough land to meet our housing requirements. The amount of vacant land in what they call the urban corridor was 3300 hectares which is about 1400 acres of land. That is not my figure. That is according to the Physical Development Plan.

Sir, I want to move on quickly. I do not want to keep us here too long. I want to move on to mining and quarrying. The Plan on Page 26 had a lot to say about mining and quarrying and, Sir, I would like the Government to take note of the recommendations on Page 26 - 4.31, where it mentions the environmental impact of quarrying. It states, "Specifically, in order to prevent any conflicts or to reconcile satisfactorily different interests, detailed studies may be required to be undertaken on the excavation guidelines specified by the Town and Country Planning Office." It mentioned a few areas. One area is something

that I want to focus on. They identified all the limestone quarries which have not been approved by the Chief Town Planner as an area of concern. The fact is that there are a lot of quarries in the Island in which limestone mining is taking place but the people have not had permission from the Chief Town Planner for such activity. Sir, I would like the Government to take note of that and use whatever legal means there are to ensure that anybody who operates a quarry on the Island has the relevant permission to do so. I want to raise this because a lot of nuisance has been created by the indiscriminate quarrying that has taken place over the Island and I am glad that the Plan identified this. I do not think that anybody should be able just because you own the land to bring in a bulldozer and start taking up the quarrying. I believe, Sir, that we should insist that planning permission be granted before any such activity begins. Where it has been found, Sir, that persons have been illegally engaged in these practices, their operation should be closed. I want to support that, Sir. Quarrying and mining should only be done on the approval of some mining commission.

12.15 p.m.

In this respect, I want to bring in the difficulty that people in Green Hill, Lewis Gap and these areas face as a result of the quarrying activities that are taking place in the former plantation called Malvern Lodge. When I was a boy, that was all in agricultural land, but since 1970 or thereabouts it was turned into a quarry and is now occupied and used by Rayside Concrete Works. Sir, I would like to inform the Senate that the people in that area are undergoing tremendous difficulties with the result that one or two may have died as a result of the adverse environmental effect of the quarrying. I am calling on Government to investigate the terms and conditions under which that quarry operates and use whatever sanctions or whatever is available to ensure that the proper standards and guidelines be put in place so that the people of Green Hill, of which I am a proud descendant, would be able to enjoy their land without the nuisance and the enormous cost.

Only day before yesterday, I was up there and heard the comments of people who are unable to grow crops because of the amount of dust. When you look at the trees, you see the leaves of the trees coated with dust. One wonders what is happening to the lungs of the people who day and night have to breathe, not only the substance from the limestone, but also the cement dust and the dust from the Barber Green plant. I am calling on Government to use its powers to alleviate the conditions of the good people of Green Hill, Lewis Gap and Storey Gap and Codrington Hill, because it is becoming a serious health hazard. I am glad that the Development Plan identifies it as such.

While I am on mining, the Development Plan has stated that we have a lot of clay and sand resources on the island. I wonder, Sir, if Government should not make better

use of the clay resources. Only across from here, we see Government has to import pigment to make stepping stones by the infamous development of Trafalgar Square. I am told, with good authority, that the company at Greenland could have produced the same stones of clay without the loss of foreign exchange. We are not using our resources. The factory could have used the God-given resources and increased labour to do the same thing that we have imported the pigment for. I almost mistook them for clay. We have to use what we have.

I hope that Government will make use of those comments. These are concerns which must be ventilated. I might belong to the opposite side, but I am first and foremost a Barbadian and I want to see my country develop. Anything I say in here, whether it is used or not, or who gets the credit for it, I don't care. We have to use any idea, no matter where it comes from, so long as it is feasible to develop our country.

With these words, I support the amendment to the Physical Development Plan.

SENATOR Mrs. A. STRAUGHN: Mr. Deputy President, in supporting this Resolution, I should like to make a few comments and observations. Starting on page iii headed "Acknowledgment", I should like to congratulate and give my highest respect to the people there listed and even those not listed for producing a document which gives credibility to this country and puts it alongside developing countries in the study of the discipline of urban sociology. It is a very commendable document. As a Barbadian, I am truly proud of it.

For a long time, now, with my limited knowledge of urban sociology, I have been watching this country grow into zones. One of the first zones that developed and is still developing is the one called the transitional zone. I do not think that I have to explain it to Members of this Honourable House.

In noting a few observations and recommendations, the next set of pages I look at (and I would ask you to look at with me) are pages 4(a) and 70(a) – 4(a) for the gully systems and 70(a) for our road systems. If these systems could be measured or given – to use an electoral phrase – "proportional representation" – or we could superimpose the gully system on the road system, you might find that they compare favourably in mileage. That tells us something, Mr. Deputy President.

At this point, therefore, I should like to emphasise, even although I know it is embraced in the Development Plan, the importance of the cleaning, the clearing and the management of these gullies for their resource value. I should like to recommend that in the overall scheme of things, in addition to the effectiveness in preserving the natural vegetation that these gullies may be used as areas of

nature trails for horses and even other animals and for nature walks, and that the clearing, the cleaning, maintenance and replanting and the management of these gullies be a vital and prescribed function of the proposed National Service Scheme which, Mr. Deputy President, is under consideration.

I should also like to take this opportunity to praise and compliment the work of our National Conservation Commission – although it is true that it is one of those areas of public service, the work of which by its very nature must be seen to be done – the work of the Centre for Research and Environmental Studies headed by Dr. Una Moore, the Head of Biology at the Cave Hill campus; the Barbados Environmental Association; at the risk of including a personality, the vitality of a woman by the name of Susan Mahon who puts her every energy into disseminating ecological information throughout the Caribbean; and the work of the National Trust.

Mr. Deputy President, the next area I should look at is Recreation and Conservation on pages 171–172. I should like to acknowledge the amount of consideration that has gone into every aspect of these areas. But I should also like to recommend good management practices, procedures, skills and techniques, if you like, and above all, good training schemes and proper selection procedures for the management personnel in these particular areas. I submit, Mr. Deputy President, that several of the best schemes have been and can be eroded and even destroyed because of the poor character of its management. In any development camp, the human element and capital are of the essence.
12.25 p.m.

My third observation, Mr. Deputy President, comes on pages 68, 69 under Sanitation also pages 170, 171 and under sections 5.95 and 11.72. Right through these pages we notice reference to the term "drainage problems" and "flooding". I have the greatest respect for the knowledge that has been acquired and displayed over time by our expert technicians many of whom are young enough to be of service to our nation for a very long time. I do recommend, Mr. Deputy President, that our labour force at all levels, including the supervisory level and in the lower echelon, be educated into not just mechanical skills but the reasons and rationale behind their labour. Many of our supervisors in this area need educating even in how to pass on instructions to the labour force.

I notice the use of the term "checkdams". Sometimes I can tell you from personal experience that some of what I think they are called – dam checks – are the damnation of some of the residents in some of these areas. I have personal experience of that just where I live. I do not think any Senators in this Honourable Chamber would ever think that water is expected to flow upwards or uphill unless it is pumped. I have never seen water flowing out of a drain which has been deliberately plugged. So I recommend that

people be educated at all levels on this type of construction growth so that they understand why they are doing what they are doing and that they are able to use initiative even if people make mistakes. I think, Mr. Deputy President, that on-going sessions of training are necessary. Each area needs its own particular teaching and education in its own context. The practicalities are in many instances far more important than the blue prints.

With these few observations and comments, Mr. Deputy President, I support the Resolution.

SENATOR J. A. F. COLE: Mr. Deputy President, I must say that no one could fail to be impressed by this document, by the comprehensive way in which it was presented by Senator Lewis and by the valid remarks which we have heard from Senators Barker and Straughn. I believe we could possibly go on for many days discussing and making valid comments on this recommended Plan. There are a few things which I would like to add. I must also say I stand to support the Resolution.

First of all the policies are terrific. They have been put together by very talented men. Senator Straughn has referred to that but I would like to back up what she has said about the implementation of these plans. These plans have to be carried out by people of a certain quality backed by management who can give orders and get things done, management who is answerable. These are things which I believe have not been looked at in the sector as closely as possible as they could have been over the years. It is now time for a turn-around. It is now time to tell people that they are responsible for their job security. If we can get that across I think you would not find a lot of that eavesdropping that takes place. You would have a better quality man who is motivated by himself. It cannot be done overnight but we have to attempt to get it done otherwise all of this would be just so many words and we would never actually get these plans going.

We talk about the distributive sector in this report getting into manufacturing. I think you ought to ask the questions, "What about market needs? Who is going to do it? What about the work attitude of the people here?" Not long ago I got up and spoke about the fact that we should try to broaden job descriptions and union categories. These are not remarks that were directed to the Chair. But we heard we have to be careful that we do not start to institute servitude which was bondage and all sorts of things which I think have all gone behind us now. We have to put those things behind us. It is my experience, as a matter of fact, Sir, that management who actually do things which people think they should not do seem to be more successful. They do the servitude and they seem to be more successful than the people who stick to the narrow job descriptions.

I think our manufacturing ideas are very nice but we have to develop the "man" impression. The Workers'

Unions have to help. The public sector has to help the private sector. They have to get together. They have to talk to one another. They have to stop looking at business as something which is bad. We have to stop looking at Government being wasteful. We all have something to learn from each other. The time is very short now.

We talk about tourism. Tourism can only exist in an environment. We have to get the environment right. This morning there was an article in the newspapers about the St. Thomas Dump. Now, if my geography serves me right, one parish which is in the middle of the Island is St. Thomas. The Mangrove Dump is in St. Thomas. I accidentally drove down there one day trying to go down Content Road. I drove into the Mangrove Dump. The first thing I noticed was this peculiar smell. Then I noticed a huge amount of rats. There was a terrible rat infestation so much so I could hear them popping under the car tyres as I looked for somewhere to turn around. This was a shocking thing to me. I eventually went about 500 yards later to George Elliott's place at Content and I saw the rats running around out there. We are trying to control rat infestation and Mangrove Dump is a breeding ground. It has to be controlled. I saw reports showing that cane farmers are attributing some of their loss in the tonnage of sugar in the sugar industry to rat infestation. That is a terrible thing down there. I would like anyone to drive down there and see it. I will say no more about that. It has to be put right.

Tourism: We have to start educating the man in the streets in Barbados. When my children were at school they were learning about tourism. I wonder if they are still learning about tourism and what the tourist industry means. I wonder if the man in the street who is driving his car knows that he is driving it because of tourism in Barbados. I wonder if anyone has ever pointed that out to him. He should be told this.

I live very near the Airport which is the Tom Adams section of the ABC Highway and I am very distressed about the fact that the lights are not on. It is a terrible embarrassment and it is a great danger. People are driving that highway now with headlights on because they have to put them on to see through the other car's lights and if it is wet they don't see the lines in the road, people are going to get killed.

12.35 p.m.

We mentioned fishing. I see fishing as helping in our foreign exchange in many ways. I see it as helping to make Barbados a healthier nation. I would like to think that the maintenance of some of the facilities, such as the ice making sections and so on, is properly done, because otherwise, again, all of the harbours forget about them. The fishing industry is not playing its part. It could do a lot better.

Sir, I am not going on much longer. Much of what I have seen, again comes down to the metal of the man who is going to be the nation builder going into the twenty-first century. The next decade, we talk about the nation builder – his metal. We must help to put some backbone and some guts into him. It is not something which is going to be voter attractive. I think all political parties which attempt to tackle this are going to lose ground but it is bitter medicine and bitter pills and we have to give it.

I asked someone the other day why was it that so few, or very few, if any, Barbadians went to Florida to cut canes. I was told that the Barbadian worker is no longer sought after in Florida as he used to be; that is what I was told. I could be wrong, but they tell me the Jamaican is much more sought after now. A few years ago I heard it was the opposite. Are we getting soft? In other words, Sir, all of this is very nice, unless we can put some metal in to the man, the nation builder, it will be to no avail.

I would like to congratulate all those people who put this Report together. It is something that can be worked with and it is a credit to Barbados and things Barbadian. I thank you and I would like to support the Resolution.

SENATOR Dr. F. W. ALLEYNE: Mr. Deputy President, in supporting this Resolution I wish to make a few brief comments and largely indicate agreement with much of what has been said (not everything which has been said) by Senator Barker. There are a couple of points which he made, which I thought were points of some merit.

Mr. Deputy President, in 1991 there is a greater need for physical development planning than there ever was in the history of this country and the reason is not difficult to find. The tremendous strides in economic growth and development which have taken place in Barbados in the last 40 years have taken a toll on the physical environment of Barbados. That is why in 1991 there is a greater need for physical development planning than there was 40 years ago.

Forty years we did not have as pressing a problem to deal with solid waste disposal as we have today. Forty years ago all coral reefs were still intact and I could go on. Forty years ago we did not suffer from the level of marine pollution which we suffer from today; and certainly forty years ago we did not have the number of motor vehicles on our roads and subsequently the pollution of the atmosphere. That is why I endorse very strongly the comments of Senators Straughn and Cole about the merit of the Development Plan.

Those who have brought their skills together to produce this plan must be warmly complimented. But I go further. Perhaps the most lucid treatise I have ever read on planning has been written by the late Sir Arthur Lewis. I have studied several treatises on planning. In a nutshell,

what Lewis has to tell us ... Lewis says the rationale for planning is to bring some order to the process of development. That is the reason for planning. And unless this plan is adhered to by Government we might as well dump it today. There is no point in bringing this Plan to this House and asking us to support it (and support it we will) and then at the end of the day, there is any major deviation from the Plan because what we are courting is chaos and disorder as far as the economy and society are concerned.

I could not agree more with the comments made by Senators Straughn and Cole with respect to implementation in Barbados. I think our first Development Plan we had in Barbados was in 1962–65. We have had several plans since then. We had 1965–68, we had 1969–73, and the 1973–78 Plan and we have had a number of Plans since then. The most recent we have goes down, I think, to 1993. I have gone through most of them. On more than one occasion I have gone through them, and it is one thing that strikes me about planning in Barbados and both Senators Cole and Straughn put the finger on it: the weakness of our planning in Barbados is implementation. You go across any area of public sector activity in Barbados, today, and whenever you find there is a flaw in what is happening it comes at the level of implementation. Beautiful plans. But when it comes to implementation we have neglected it. I do not confess to know why we have neglected it but I know it is sadly neglected. And, basically, Mr. Deputy President, what am I speaking about when I speak about implementation? I think there are four things which are critical to the whole process of implementation. Having got that plan we have to bring together skills of supervision, coordination, monitoring and evaluation. Things change over time. That is why we have to monitor and evaluate, because as things change, it is said that as the external environment changes very sharply on us we might need to change course, and we have been sadly lacking on this in Barbados. I believe one of the major reasons why agriculture continues to decline. In spite of whatever is said about agriculture, the evidence is there. I believe the major reason for that persistent rural decline in Barbados is our failure on implementation.

The Ministry of Agriculture in Barbados has a substantial range of good projects, but implementation is the problem. I was very struck when I heard Senator Barker speak (and I don't doubt him) about that sour-sop project, I think somewhere in the Scotland District. I have not checked it. I have no reason to doubt him. I don't believe he would try to mislead the House, but that is a classic case of faulty implementation. My concern is that the Government should put the resources in place to make sure that the Plan is properly implemented. That is a necessary condition. It is all right to bring this here, to bring the best economic plan here. Unless you put the resources in place and make sure that those resources do the work which they are entitled to do, we are wasting our time.

I have to agree with Senator Barker about the lack of timeliness of this Plan. As you read this Plan you will notice that a lot of thinking in this Plan really does not belong to the nineties. We have to be cautious on this. If you look at the section, (I think it is page 102) dealing with agriculture.... The point I am making is, in referring to agriculture and to sugar the Plan speaks at that time of a target of 120 000 tonnes. You know how far we are away from that. It speaks of, I seem to recall, 11 200 jobs in manufacturing. You know how far we are away from that. I make the point to stress the necessity for timeliness. We have not only to get a decent Plan but produce it for discussion in a timely manner because this Plan has to provide the basis for discussion on policy. It is absolutely necessary that these documents be put before us in a timely fashion.
12.45 p.m.

We are in 1991. I must say, Mr. Deputy President, that when I look at the page (I think it is 83 or 89 under Sewerage) I believe that in the future any physical development plan which is brought before us for consideration should pay much more attention to arresting the decay of our physical environment. Otherwise, we run the risk that industries like tourism, particularly tourism and tourism related activities, will become victim of their very growth. As an industry like tourism expands, we in Barbados know that in the present setting it puts a lot of pressure on the physical environment and on the living of the fishermen by destruction of the marine environment.

While in the Ministry of Agriculture with our best efforts we are trying to press ahead, the efforts of the Ministry of Agriculture can be effectively undermined by activities in the tourism sector. I would plead in the future far more attention should be paid in our planning exercise to measures to arrest the deterioration of our physical environment. After all, Barbados is for all of us.

I am heartened, Mr. Deputy President, by the comments and commitment given to this Chamber by the Minister of Agriculture. I feel sure that every Senator in this Chamber and every Member in the Lower House will support his position on stopping the alienation of arable lands out of agriculture. It is a position which if we do not take, and adhere to it in 1991, by the year 2001 we will not have any need for a Minister of Agriculture. Unless you have a critical mass of resources in agriculture, certainly in cropping agriculture, you cannot have viable production. I note that the land is idle. A lot of it is idle. All I wish to do is to urge Government, since I know that Government has already declared its policy on idle lands. Government has it as a policy document of 1991. Government set out its position quite clearly on how it is going to bring idle lands into cultivation. I just wish to take this opportunity to urge Government to act with the greatest speed in putting the policy mechanisms in place, which have been already identified, to bring that idle land back into productive use.

Mr. Deputy President, I believe it is in the interest of Barbados to bring that idle land back into cultivation even if we have to lease the lands to operators at zero rent. The value to the society is that crops will be produced. That is a value and there is another value that we will not be providing the breeding grounds for rodents as Senator Cole has emphasized.

In closing, Mr. Deputy President, I have already indicated my support for this very worthwhile document. I again, like Senator Cole, urge the Government to take immediately whatever action is necessary to bring that eye sore at Mangrove to an end. It does not only threaten the people in that district. It is a threat to the tourism industry and it is a threat to all of us in Barbados. Whatever is necessary, let us do it now. I am much obliged to you, Mr. Deputy President.

SENATOR Mrs. V. C. FRASER: Mr. Deputy President, I too should like in supporting this Resolution to congratulate those persons who have taken time, energy, and goodwill to bring before us this document because had it not been for those persons I do not think that we would have this kind of document. It says that we still have a number of loyal sons and daughters who seriously believe that Barbados is their very own.

Mr. Deputy President, I have certain concerns like others who talk about implementation because I happen to have nearly over thirty years' experience in this area of agriculture and nutrition. One of the things that I have been doing all my life is travelling around Barbados, looking at things, and talking with people. I know that there are a lot of Barbadians who are concerned about the whole question of environmental pollution. They are very concerned that they cannot get any sea eggs. This was a delicacy and this could be quite a delicacy for tourists. Because of the destruction of the green environment in many areas where we used to have lovely shells of sea eggs, we no longer have any sea eggs at all. They are sometimes called the sea urchins.

What we are finding too when it comes to things like lobsters, years ago we used to be able to get lobsters. We must realize, as Senators Alleyne, Cole, and Straughn stressed, the importance of implementation. I think that we have to be very, very serious. I remember when I was in St. Kitts some years ago the Government of St. Kitts decided that there would be no fishing for lobsters. They said that it would take about three years and nobody was to touch a lobster. They did not mind if they did not get any sale. It did not matter. What mattered was to have the lobster population in such an abundance that when they returned to fishing they would be able to export and export in large amounts.

That story of St. Kitts should be a lesson to us because they did just that. I recall that, along with a consultant from

FAO... He took the fishermen out and he showed them the disadvantage of just taking up all of the small lobsters and bringing them for sale.

12.55 p.m.

I think it is very necessary, if we are talking about implementation, to have people who can go out there and train people in the waters. Let them understand the disadvantages of blowing fish; the disadvantages of all the waste; the disadvantages of trying to over-fish, so that they will realise the benefits that can be derived in two or three years' time.

I think we need to be constantly reminding people in these areas that patience is a great virtue. It doesn't make sense grabbing up two and three fishes and then there is nothing left to fish for. We need to see those chub fish and all those fishes that people used to put out fish-pots for. These are delicacies in some of the Caribbean islands. People serve these in various sauces. Here again, we could be making a contribution towards tourism in the area of fishing.

While we are on fishing, I should also like to see... I congratulate the Government for what they are doing and what is focussed on in the Plan. But, again, when it comes to implementation, I would like to see that fish is much more hygienically handled. I think this is one of the big problems we have. Fish is just thrown on the ground and people forget that it has to be eaten. It is wrapped in all pieces of newspaper and all kinds of things. These can introduce bacteria to the fish. I would like to see implemented in that fisheries programme training in fish handling and general handling of fillets. Not just put them on some dirty, old slab and fillet. It looks disgraceful and what is worse, it can be very unhealthy.

Also, I would like to see that the facilities of those people who are putting fish on ice, improved. It can only be improved if these people are really taught. They need to be taught how to pack those fishes properly. This is a big thing in England where fish is caught and exposed for sale to the public. Often you find people running around in the sun with fish that is really rotten fish. People buy it and then they become very sick. Now, that doesn't do very well for our population. I would like to see some sort of modernised kind of cart that the fish can be kept at a certain temperature which keeps it fit for human beings to eat. Not all the fish might be sold from a particular fisherman or they may not have enough storage facilities.

Now, that has nothing to do with Government. You hear some people getting on the air and saying Government didn't do this or that. I think there has to be a certain amount of discipline brought to the entire society, to the consumer as well as the fish vendor. The consumer must refuse to take fish at that time and therefore the fishermen will get together and pull up their socks if they realise that

people are rejecting what they have to sell and it is not good. So, I wish to see in the implementation that these things are done. Sometimes, we have to institute unpopular laws but nevertheless it will redound to the good of Barbados in the future.

We can do a lot of farming in the sea. The sea has tremendous potential with all sorts of fishes around these waters. If we kill them out, then it means it will be very difficult for us to build back. It is easy to pull down and drag down. The Minister of Agriculture is not responsible for that and therefore we have to blame the people who are involved and not blame Government for that. The Minister doesn't have time to go out there fishing. If you are in the Chamber of Commerce and you are a business person, I think you would look forward to seeing that your area is the best area in the world. Whatever is your field of endeavour, you should look at training and retraining, because there are many new techniques in fishing that have started in 1991 and some that are futuristic. We need to be looking at those new techniques and developments to swell the yield of fish; to wait a little while on those that we need to replenish; to look at what we can do about dumping old cars and things like that; to look at building up our fishing banks. There is a need for fish. Fish is protein and has very little fat. It is easily digested and therefore more and more doctors, dieticians and nutritionists are recommending that people eat more fish. We have to look seriously at this area when it comes to the management and implementation of the whole fishing industry. I am happy that quite a bit is being done now, but I want to see it looking like a perfect operation without the old antiquated ideas of handling and dealing with fish.

Mr. Deputy President, I am very pleased about what is going to be done about the Scotland District. Here again, I should like to point out that the question of implementation and close management is necessary. I say this because I recall there were quite a number of fruit trees in that Scotland District. I remember trying to get cherries to make jam and was referred to the Scotland District when we were looking for various fruits for a Ministry's exhibition. To my eternal horror, while I was on my radio programme, a lady called in and said, "You know, I don't understand. You are there asking for cherries and you are there promoting cherries and the Ministry has a whole lot of cherry trees down there with vines all over them." Now, that is very hurtful. Here I was promoting cherries and people are slapping me in the face, "What are you promoting for? You could as well sit down."

If we don't have that area properly managed, where somebody sees to it that the cherry trees are not covered by vines, which don't grow in a day, it means that you have neglected those fruit trees. That area is a particular example of it. There were all kinds of fruit trees in that area. I was there quite recently and I am glad to see that they are doing something now about it again. If they are not careful and

don't manage, you will get the same problem all over again. When it comes to implementation, I think that whoever are the supervisors and the managers have to be closely monitored by their bosses to see to it that neither Government wastes its money nor that the money of the Foundations or the various overseas agencies that assist us is not wasted. It is pointless giving money to do things and then lower down the line it falls through because of lack of proper management. This is something I want to stress very strongly.

I am very happy about the Scotland programme. I know when we talk about frustrations. I recall one of the agricultural advisors telling me that he was sent to be trained in a particular area of building up shelters. You take an area like Bayleys Plantation which is exposed to the wind. If there were shelters in that section, you wouldn't get so much wind blast destroying all the fruit trees. The officer told me that he went on this training course and then an expert came down and started to plant a few things. Then some brave fellow just said, "Look, stop and go to another project." That project was just stopped. Now, if we do things like this, it does not help anyone.

I know that our Minister of Agriculture is a person who likes to go to places himself and see things, and I am very happy that we have such a Minister. I congratulate him for that. Even up in the little hills – Fruitful Hill – he will go and see. I went there too – not only the Minister – to see my little friend, Emile, who from three pineapples... I would like some people to take an example when we are talking about use of land.
1.05 p.m.

There is no point talking about bringing back idle land and then you are not going to take great care of it. We want to put it in the hands of people who will take care of it. Now, this little fellow had some land of his own. Thank God it is his because his mother gave this land to her children. The others moved out and went to town but little Emile decided to get three pineapple plants. He started with three and now he has hundreds, not only for sale but he can sell the shoots as well. He is willing to sell his shoots and help other people. He has gone to quite a few people, even people at the top in this society whom I have sent him to and they are now planting some pineapples and he is looking after them for them telling them what to do. He comes and mulches them and looks after them. Now, if you can get people like that to look after the various crops that we are going to plant on this unused land, I think that is a step in the right direction, people who have the care and concern. We are tired with the visiting farmer. We must have the farmer who is a real farmer, not one who has a job in Bridgetown and leaves somebody to look after it. He is a part-time farmer. We want full-time farmers.

Another thing about this. I do not know the exact figure but I understand that there are some people in

Barbados who will not pay any taxes. They just leave the land idle so they do not have to pay any taxes. Now, I think they are not really true Barbadians. Government has to put its hands down on that. Everybody is talking and yakking but let us implement a programme. If those people would not pay their taxes, take the land. I am very serious about this. Give it to some of the people like Emile and some of those boys that are in White Hill growing pineapples, youngsters who are doing serious business about here. They bring their ware down to the Expo and they have been selling them. They are really producing. I left some of them up at the Nutrition Centre today with the Nutrition Expo, hawkers who are growing this stuff and selling it, beautifully produce. Most of them are young people. They yearn for some land to grow produce on. I want to see it given to those people who are serious. The only job they have is farming. They do not have another job downtown. They have developed their own skills, experience and techniques. They read a lot and research things.

It was amazing to see how that fellow Emile could tell you so much about pineapples. He says now he would like to go to Hawaii to see what they are doing. These are the kinds of young people that we need. If we have people who are like that we will get real development. I hope sincerely that the land that is out there and people will not pay their taxes, and have left it to lie idle that we will take it away and when we take it away nobody will say any foolishness in this community. Even if they say foolishness, as long as we have some law passed to protect us we do not have to worry about the foolishness because young people will be working. They will be producing food for the population and this country will be earning money.

In this programme we need to have people who are going to go out there quite early and look for the crops that are going to be profitable. With the reunification of Europe, we have to look at the crops they are going to want. We have to be futuristic. Only last week I attended the public sector conference. We had the benefit of the people from the EEC. One of the things they cited was that West Indians do not take on the benefits of the times or the information. A lot of that is true. They miss a lot of opportunities.

They were talking about opportunities where one could get funding to help in certain crops like passion fruit and carambola. These are things they want in Germany right now. Malaysia is not producing enough passion fruit so they want passion fruit from the West Indies. They also cited the fact that one side of Germany had bananas and the other did not have. What were we in this region doing about our bananas? They were also citing the fact that people have acquired a taste for pepper. We cannot grow enough peppers for these people.

I would like the crops that are going to be organised, I am not talking about the Scotland area now where they already have certain plans afoot, but this land that is going

to be given to people. It should be land that people can make money from because of the marketing information. You can tell them what to plant and when to plant. This is marketing intelligence. We have to put that to them fair and square. We have to sit down and make out contracts with these small farmers so that they know and understand what is for export and what is to be sold on the local market. In this we will earn some valuable foreign exchange.

I think that agriculture has the answer to our problems in the area of foreign exchange in this country. I can see a new breed of agriculturists who will have a simple little plough that they can operate by hand. Never mind that is a move up. They would not have to be forking and forking. We need to use some of the technology that has been developed by Dr. Hudson for reaping of cherries so that people will not have to be quarrelling and saying they are not going to reap the cherries because they bite their skin. We have to look at all these things to make the worker comfortable. At the same time the worker has to understand that he or she must produce because they are being paid to produce and not to waste time.

Mr. Deputy President, I look forward eagerly to the implementation of these plans. I am one of those Barbadians who will do all in my power to assist with the implementation of these plans and to try to motivate others to implement these plans in this Development Plan.

Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy President.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS: Mr. Deputy President, I beg to move that the sitting be suspended for one hour until 2.15 p.m.

The question that the sitting be suspended until 2.15 p.m. was put to the Senate and agreed to.
1.15 p.m.

RESUMPTION

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: This sitting is now resumed.

SENATOR J. G. BELLAMY: Mr. Deputy President, I rise to support the Resolution. I wish to make a few comments. Many of the thoughts I have had on this Physical Development Plan have already been covered by several of the other Senators who spoke and so I would observe strict senatorial practice in trying not to repeat anything that has already been said, other than to say I support the submissions of the previous Senators, Senator Barker, Senator Cole, Senator Straughn, and Senator Alleyne.

The word 'implementation' crops up throughout the whole printing of this Plan and a lot has been said on that. I would again wish to stress my concern that the successful implementation of the Plan is essential. In fact I am looking at page 108, subsection 825 which starts off with the use of the words "Successful implementation". That paragraph in itself says an awful lot and I think that is something I would hope the Government would seek to insist upon – the implementation.

The implementation of many things as we have heard some already describe this morning, tends to fall down due to the people who are involved in them, the lack of management or the inefficient management of them, and we have to work very hard to make sure that this does not continue.

My also serious concern with this Plan, as has already been stated, is the date of it and the fact that it is coming before us now when much of the information in it, as Senator Alleyne quite rightly pointed out, is really, perhaps, not in keeping with the 1990s. Such information, for example, already referred to was the figures quoted for sugar which we know are not being achieved. I am also struck by the figures quoted for unemployment: this Plan in 1980 projected unemployment at 12.6 per cent and projected unemployment would have dropped to seven per cent by 1990 and hopefully six per cent by the year 2000. We are all well aware of the situation we are facing today. So I think that such information is not in keeping with what is actually the position today and I hope that the realisation of this will be noted by the implementers of the Plan.

The Leader of the Senate in introducing the Resolution referred to our continuing concern about tourism and I think he used words like, ensuring that we improve the value added content of the tourist product. I totally agree with that. In this respect the safety of tourist, as well as locals comes to mind.

Reference has been made already to the matter of the inefficient lighting on the ABC Highway. I would go further and appeal for recognition of lighting and the necessity of proper lighting, particularly in those areas that are populated or popular with tourists. There are several of them where that could be improved and lighting is one of the best forms of security that exist.

I am also concerned, in our Physical Development Plan, when we see situations, for example, like the one that has come about in Hometown where the Plan is in place now to rebuild a new police station and law courts on an area where the old police station was. This is an historic area which I believe to be very prime real estate in respect of the tourist plant in Barbados, and any development there could be done in a manner that would still maintain the historical significance. I am not convinced myself, that the construction of a police station and law court necessarily

needed to be done on that spot and it is things like that, that I think we have to be very very careful about in any plan for the future in making sure that we utilise the limited resources that we have and the best possible potential that we can derive from those resources.

The Plan also refers in one part to the Airport and reading it here, let me say up front, Mr. Deputy President, that I believe that the Barbados Airport is quite probably the best in the entire Caribbean, but we still have to be aware of what we are doing and what we are trying to achieve. I read in this Plan that the Airport as it stands is organised with a view to handling 2.2 million passengers annually and during peak periods, 1700 passengers.

I have recently had an experience of coming through that Airport at about 4 o'clock on a Saturday afternoon when there were something like five jumbo jets on the ground and the passengers waiting to leave overflowed the departure lounge and were hanging around wherever they could find space. I think this is also a concern because I am concerned about the last impression that a tourist leaving Barbados has of Barbados. If they are uncomfortable or inconvenienced in any way it is likely to be the last impression they have of the Island and it may stay with them rather longer than we would like it to stay with them and the word of mouth transmission of our tourist product and how we are able to handle that product is one of grave concern to me.

The Plan also ... Jumping from the Airport to the Port where I know that there are some structural alterations going on with a view to better and more efficient handling of cruise ship passengers, I don't see anywhere in this Plan any reference to the possible construction of a marina which I also know is something that is under consideration. I think we have even heard of that in an earlier Session of the Senate that it is still under consideration. But we are painfully aware of the loss Barbados has sustained in recent years as a result of not being able to accommodate the yachting traffic as well as we would have liked to. So it is for reasons like this that I think there are areas of the Plan that are already out of date. A plan is only a plan and we will have to use it and stand by it and make sure that the most important parts of it are implemented in the best interest of the development of Barbados for all of our people.

I am very heartened by the opening comments that the Leader of the Senate made in respect to agriculture and agricultural production, particularly the production of a wide range of fruits. I, for one, would like to see more Barbadian grown fruits on the tables, of not only households in Barbados, but in all of the hotels and restaurants. I have recently returned from a business trip to the Dominican Republic which is one of our major competitive areas in tourism in this region and as far as I could see, all of the fruit that appeared on their tables were locally grown and I compliment the Minister on the plans

that he has for the development of agriculture in this area. I only hope that those people who are charged with the implementation will fulfil it.

I also drive through the Scotland District and there are some areas in the Scotland District that I think could be greatly improved upon. I certainly don't think that we want to hand over so-called idle land to idle people.

I also am struck by the fact that in a neighbouring island – Trinidad – when the economy was riding high on the crest of the wave of success and big money, the people of the country turned away from agriculture and as far as I am aware the country had to go through serious economic hardships and a lot of the people in Trinidad have returned to the land and to agriculture. I sincerely hope that Barbados does not have to go through that sort of restructuring to influence our people as to the wise and sensible use of the land and the fact that it can be extremely rewarding for those people who work it.

I am also concerned about the environment with particular reference to the sewerage that we have in Barbados which we have reason to believe may be affecting our seas and our reefs. I know there are plans for south and west coast sewerage to complement the existing sewerage system that exists in Bridgetown, although I am somewhat surprised that more people have not yet connected to the sewerage system in Bridgetown and I would hope that in the not too distant future we can see the extension of the sewerage system.

Fishing: I am also impressed by the plans for that, but again I know as the Senator on the other side contended a little while ago, the Minister cannot possibly do everything but one hears reports of beautiful facilities that are provided and in the not too distant future these facilities are not working or parts of them are not working for one reason or another. So simple maintenance and management is essential.

The community spirit that one has seen in many parts of Barbados being revitalised with the creation of little parks and landscaped areas and so on, is something that I think we should encourage with a view to improving the overall environment and also getting the people of the respective communities really interested in making sure that all of Barbados is a completely beautiful spot which will not only attract tourist and please them but will be pleasing to our own population.

2.25 p.m.

The other problem that we have on a continuing basis relates to Bridgetown and the handling of traffic. It is referred to in this Plan. I know that some things have been done but an awful lot remains to be done. Those of us who

have to come into Bridgetown on a daily basis know the horrors of trying to get in or out of Bridgetown during the peak hours. I believe that with successful implementation of some of the plans contained here that situation can be alleviated.

Parking is always a problem and here again we have possibly to retrain and re-educate our own people in regard to parking because Barbadians are accustomed to getting somewhere to park for nothing. While this is very good and while this can be afforded, the time may have come when this is no longer possible. It always amazes me when I see the same Barbadians travel abroad and think nothing of putting money into a parking meter to park, but that is an unheard of situation in Barbados. It is something that I think that we should look very seriously at.

The other point that I wanted to refer to was that I noted in the Plan that there was a plan to construct a jetty. I think that is the word used to refer to it at the Arawak Cement Plant and we all know that has been done. What disturbs me about that is (and this is in particular reference to the Bridgetown Port) that as a result of the increase in cruise liner business the Port from time to time is quite congested. I wonder if the use of the jetty at the Arawak Cement Plant could not be broadened because in the Plan I note that it is to be used by Arawak or for any other business reason associated with Arawak. I wonder if the use of that jetty could not be broadened to include use by other industrial development that may take place in that area and which may also afford the opportunity of serving to develop that area more as an industrial base, which I believe is also incorporated in this Plan because of the type of land that exists up there that is very suitable for that type of development.

Mr. Deputy President, with those few points, I would like to support the Resolution.

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS: Mr. Deputy President, I have taken note of the several comments made on the matter. Whereas I may not have made substantial notes in every instance, I am certain that it will be necessary for me to consult with the Hansard record in order to follow up on the very many worthwhile suggestions which have been made during discussion on this Resolution.

I beg, therefore, to move that the Resolution be now passed.

The question that the Resolution be now passed was put to the Senate and agreed to.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LAND AT FOUL BAY, ST. PHILIP TO PROVIDE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Order No. 2 was called – To move the passing of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Foul Bay, St. Philip to provide recreational facilities.

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS: Mr. Deputy President, this Resolution relates to an Act by Government which has to do with the development and continuation of support for community spirit and community activities. The Resolution deals with the compulsory acquisition of a parcel of land comprising some 8438 square metres or thereabouts.

The land has been rented by the Victoria Sports Club and maintained without Government assistance for more than forty-seven years. It is used as a playing field by the cricket club which takes part in the Barbados Cricket League (BCL popularly known). Apparently, after all of these years, the present owner of the land decided that he would wish to discontinue the rental agreement and to use the land for other purposes.

However, when an examination was made of the area and developments in the area, it was realized that it would have been almost impossible for Government to identify another area of land suitable for use by the Victoria Sports Club. Although a playing field was being developed in the area of Rices which is nearby, it was recognized that there is another club, the Foul Bay Community Club, which presently would be using the Rices playing field along with the Sunrise Cultural and Community Club as well as residents in the area. It is known that this is in one of the areas in St. Philip that is developing fairly quickly in terms of residential accommodation. Given the circumstances of the long usage by the Victoria Sports Club, Government moved swiftly to acquire the land in order to make it available to this sports club.

I beg to move that the Resolution be passed.

SENATOR Miss M. A. MOTTLEY: Mr. Deputy President, I rise to support the Resolution in respect of the compulsory acquisition of this parcel of land at Foul Bay to enable the continual provision of facilities for the residents in general and surrounding areas and more particularly to those people who have been associated with the Victoria Sports Club for many years.

Sir, this brings to mind Government's whole policy in relation to the question of the provision of facilities at a community level for those members of the community and indeed Government's involvement with that community as to how they exist. I am as well as the Barbados Labour Party a staunch believer of the fact that Government's role

must be that of a facilitator but not to get involved to try and dictate and to muscle in on how the community functions and how it operates. That is within the province and the prerogative of the community. Where Government can exist in allowing them to attain their goals, then Government should do so as in the instant case of this Resolution.

When one hears the name Victoria Sports Club, one cannot help but remember the reports attached to the same Victoria Sports Club relating to physical damage that that club received over the last few months as a result of its rented out for certain entertainment activities. Accordingly, one would hope that in these instances where Government has gone out of its way to help to provide the facilities and to ensure that they are not lost to them in this instance that members of that community and, indeed, all other communities in Barbados where Government has provided facilities for them should ensure that those facilities are kept in the best possible way. Perhaps it may be useful for them to volunteer their services in the maintenance of those facilities without having to rely exclusively on Government for those services. This is particularly so where in those communities one would find a high number of people without jobs – idle hands – who should be willing and should want to be able to make good use of their hands, especially if it inures to the benefit of the community in which they live.

2.35 p.m.

I would hope that the members of those communities do not sit down and wait on Government or any other institution, for that matter, to try to organise them in terms of their labour in assisting in the maintenance of these facilities. We are at a stage in Barbados, now, where we know that things are a little tight and resources are perhaps even more than a little tight. Therefore, what we do have must be maintained at all costs without forcing us to dig into our pockets to pay more to provide curative medicine when preventative medicine would have dealt with the problem initially. (I see Senator Alleyne shaking his head). I know that he is aware of the problems in the economy and therefore he will welcome this urgent caution to the general public of Barbados.

I hope that these young people who are not presently working come out and play a part. We have seen, in an earlier debate, the Honourable Senator refer to the number of parks that are seen springing up around Barbados. This community service extends beyond these parks. Now, it extends to the provision of proper maintenance for those community facilities from which they benefit.

In respect, Sir, of the sporting facilities, I believe that the time has come, and I am making an overall call on Government to recognise the tremendous value and potential of sports and culture in this country. Not only in

terms of leisure time activities but most specifically in terms of the economic potential therein. I would hope, as I said, in a situation as we find ourselves with scarce foreign reserves that we exploit the cultural and sporting industries to see whether we cannot develop them to help us in earning this foreign exchange. I believe if we look back at the Barbados Labour Party's manifesto of January 1991, one would see extensive plans provided for the young people of this country through the avenues of sports and culture. We know already that they have a disposition to these activities. We know that they are more likely to want to be involved in sports and more able to be than a gentleman who is forty and fifty years old. Not that those can't be as well, but it is a question of more able and more likely – relativity.

Nevertheless, I believe that if we look across the world we will see that the sporting and cultural industries are perhaps generating some of the biggest amounts of revenue, aided and abetted by the broadcast media which helps to create the demand for those services and other mechanical media, whether records or whatever. Tourism is one of the few industries that exceeds those two in terms of the amount of revenue it generates.

Despite the fact that we have had in the Caribbean and in the world the reputation of Barbados having produced some of the best cricketers – I believe in today's paper we see Sir Garfield Sobers trying to do his best to help in the desegregation of cricket in South Africa – we have never been able to translate it to derive the economic benefit from that sport.

When I heard Senator Lewis say that the Victoria Sports Club has been using that field for nigh 47 years and has been involved in the Barbados Cricket League for so many years, I wondered how many national and international cricketers started off playing on that same piece of ground, at Foul Bay, that is now being acquired. While we recognise the glory they brought to us, it is time that we seek the economic benefits especially bearing in mind the trouble this country is facing with the existing industries that bring in foreign exchange. It is time that we put out the challenge. Government, as I said, is not to run it. Government is clearly a facilitator. There is absolutely no reason why somebody within the private sector should not have established some cricketing museum here at Kensington already, with all sorts of mementos, tee-shirts, ideas and novel ideas and autographed ideas for which the players receive benefits for their names going on them. The spin-off goes right down to the same players who play Saturday afternoons or play for Barbados or the West Indies as it goes to this country as a whole. The Tourist Board can then pick up that cricketing museum and market it as a novel attraction here in Barbados, particularly during the cricket season. So that when somebody has to decide which of the test matches in the Caribbean they will come to see,

they will look at those side attractions and make sure that it is Barbados that they come to. We can ensure then that we start to extract the foreign exchange potential from that kind of sporting industry.

Football is one of the most common sports in Barbados. In fact there is many an argument nowadays as to which is more popular among young people today. There are those who feel that football and basketball have begun to pass out cricket. However, the point is this, Sir. Instead of youngsters liming under a tree all day and going to play cricket for two hours on afternoons for free and fellows from the community going to watch them on the same sports field, just like this one at Victoria's Sports Club with the fellows from Foul Bay coming to see and say what a good forward that man is or whatever, there is absolutely no reason why Government through the provision of certain multi-purpose stadia – which is another thing which the Barbados Labour Party had proposed to do in its 1991 manifesto – with a keen eye related to population settlement... Those stadia would have enclosed facilities. They don't have to be very expensive. They can be very basic and rudimentary. They would allow those players and the various teams across the island to organise themselves in a manner so that instead of people watching them for free they can pay three dollars to go and watch them. With that kind of income and bearing in mind the income that can be gained through the same broadcasting media of which I spoke as well as through advertising within the same stadium that those players can be paid a basic salary, the same salary as they would have earned had they gotten a job somewhere in Bridgetown or Holetown, or wherever, which would allow them to keep body and soul together instead of just liming and playing it for fun on afternoons.

Sir, I make the point that it is Crop-over now and we see the same thing in terms of facilities. Calypso tents from the same St. Philip crying out for facilities. It is unfortunate that the same Victoria Sports Club is not big enough to hold the Untouchables Tent which hails from up there. The Untouchables Tent had to close down for a weekend to be able to find facilities. Hopefully, with the acquisition of this land, Government will ensure that those facilities will be found in St. Philip eventually, other than at Sam Lord's Hotel. The point is this, Sir. Between Crop-over, between the sporting activities and the other theatrical and artistic activities there is much benefit which can inure to this country if Government is prepared to organise itself and have a comprehensive policy on extracting the economic potential of those two industries.

I submit, Sir, that at a time like this, when we face great difficulties with manufacturing, when we face great difficulties with the types of industries and the types of skills that our young people should be using and learning and employing... But let us look at the skills which they already have. Let us look at the disposition which they already have towards these kinds of sporting and cultural

activities because it is a base from which they can work. The same way a small man can open up a small manufacturing company and employ ten people and earn foreign exchange, I submit to you, Sir, that theatrical companies or... Indeed, there are a number of musical bands who employ 10 and 12 people who when they go overseas on tour earn foreign exchange for this country. But they have not been given the kind of assistance to encourage them to go any further. They have not been given the kind of assistance to remove the structural problems that act as hindrances. For example, they are expected to pay 100% duty on equipment when it is brought in here.

2.45 p.m.

Now, Sir, the equipment is their same tools in the same way a small manufacturer may require tools for printing and a printing press. If that small person already has difficulty with access to capital, he is in real trouble when he has to find 100% of that same income again to pay the Government to be able to earn foreign exchange on behalf of this country. It is time that our attitudes change towards sporting and cultural development in this country and not just see it as the provision of a small playing facility, or a small pavilion for the benefit of a few hundred residents and then you can go around at election time and say, "Man, we have given you a playing field". It has to go beyond that. I believe we have reached a stage in our development in this country where we need to exploit those areas of activity and show that the economic potential therein is brought out. I call on this Government to set that process in train. Follow the good lead of the Barbados Labour Party in proposing it and setting it in train.

I hope that we understand that the problems facing our young people today come back to one central problem and that is inactivity, nothing to do and no jobs. At the end of the day it is the same thing. If they have nothing to do they have nothing to lose. If they own nothing they risk nothing. Those problems can be met by ensuring that we have a different attitude towards our sporting and cultural development because, as I said, this is an area in which many of them are already skilled. This is an area in which many of them want to be able to participate and earn a living from it. Let us give them that chance. Let us not walk about spouting rhetoric about young people are lawless. How are we going to deal with the fact that young people in this country are crying out for leadership, motivation, the acquisition of skills and for the opportunity to use those skills.

I hope the next time we deal with a resolution of this nature that it would be possible for us to see what economic potential Government intends to derive out of it other than it is a provision purely for leisure-time activity which I say is a good thing but it does not go far enough.

When I hear the Minister of Youth Affairs talk about the provision of a national youth service which he himself

cried down when the Barbados Labour Party tried to implement in 1985, I hope that I also hear in his voice a commitment to helping provide the opportunities, the motivation and the skills in areas where they already have an existing disposition. Let us see this Government put its weight behind the cultural and sporting industries in this country in which a large percentage of our young people are involved and which, I believe, if they can get a benefit out of it this country overall will benefit from the fact that there would no longer be a large percentage of unruly hands and unruly minds with nothing to do and nowhere to turn.

Thank you, Sir.

SENATOR Mrs. V. C. FRASER: Mr. Deputy President, I rise to support this Resolution. I have been looking at this for a long time. I realise that these young people have been paying rent now for about 47 years approximately. I think Government should be congratulated in coming to buy this place so that they would not be thrown out.

When it comes to the whole question of community development, this is something that people must understand. They must be taught that community development is not about looking for Government to support them but it is about developing oneself because you live in a given community. Community development is also the people who have come from that community coming down from their ivory towers. In our community right now there are so many people who know how something cannot work and how something cannot happen. I think it is time that all those persons who have had benefits from Government through the university system look and ask themselves what they are doing to help their country rather than getting on a radio and criticising the country morning, noon and night.

We have examples of communities where people from the university and all around the community have come back to their communities and assisted young people. They have a lot of skills going. They have set small business in order to help them to earn money. I notice the Skills Training use Deacon's Farm. In that area there were a number of people whom I have had the pleasure of teaching to help themselves by making preserves and selling them. If we are in a community and we do not understand this community is part of the wider country, Barbados, then we are sadly lacking.

We continue to say what Government must do and what Government must not do but we do not ask ourselves what are we doing to help build up our community. It is quite a shame that we have trained so many people at the universities, the Community College and the Polytechnic and very few of these people would come back to their community that helped them. Many of the old people may

have given them a glass of milk. They may have helped their own parents to place them when they went off to work and they do not want to come back to do anything.

One of the things we have to do is to go around this Island and try and create a serious responsibility programme and public awareness. We need programmes to remind people of where they came from, where they are now and where they are likely to go. The young people must have role models. In other words, they must have people who came from that district. It is just like in the Bay Land where everybody feels proud of the Bay Land because of Garfield Sobers. We were just talking about him. I feel proud to have been born in the Bay Land. I am sure Senator Lewis feels proud of that. We have been able to produce some people that we are proud of. But the one thing I love about it is that those people came back and have helped all the various sporting and debating groups, also the Val Rosa Club. That is what I mean by putting back something into your community. If you have got something, do not take all out, put back something into the community.

I think Government would like to see a lot of people assisting with skills training. The Skills Training Division cannot do it all because that money would have to come out of Government's purse to pay those persons who are going to train the people. We need people who are willing to impart their skill an hour, an evening or two hours on a Saturday morning and stop licking the hobby horse, Government. Government is all of us. All of us as citizens have a responsibility to do our part. It is said that tourism is our business then let us do our part. Barbados is our business. Why do we not play our part and seek to help to develop these young people?

Nowadays we are getting a lot of problems with the 4-H Movement. Once before the 4-H Movement had the parents coming out in large numbers. Now, it is very difficult to find parents to take on leadership roles. You have to have the Leaders Section of the 4-H Club. It is very difficult now to find leaders to help those young people who are the potential farmers in this country to get on because those who have passed out feel that they have passed out, they have their education and why do they have to come back to help anybody. If all of us had thought that way we would never have worked in the community and helped anybody.
2.55 p.m.

Mr. Deputy President, we need to instil in the minds of people (and I continue to call for a sustained programme of public awareness)... Once, people in the villages used to have garden competitions. It brought a sense of pride, the environment was clean, because everybody had a few snapdragons and a few marigolds and they had a little white lime all around the house. It instilled in everybody to

compete and therefore the Government would assist them with the competition, by getting prizes or something like that for the various communities.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Senator, please let it be relevant.

SENATOR Mrs. C. V. FRASER: Yes, Mr. Deputy President. Thank you. I am speaking on the part of what the communities can do with respect to the Victoria Club and other organisations which are situated in communities, and how people in the communities must help because in helping they are helping themselves and therefore we will not have to pull that money from Government's purse. It is a very significant point that we have to have a programme that must make people feel a responsibility.

I am talking about the youngsters who are standing up at corners and so on. Parents have to again assert and assume their roles as parents and they must be a level of discipline. Other than that they will forever stand up at the corners, because their parents have allowed them to leave their houses. If the parents will speak to them and they will be their friends, a lot of the things that are happening now will not happen – a number of parents have abrogated their responsibility.

Mr. Deputy President, I would like to see that in this area people respect whatever buildings they have as community centres because there was a time when fellows

in Deacons Farm built their own thing out of little bits of wood and bamboo and they respected it. I think, any structure we are going to put up as a Government we ought to be very serious and if we see people treating it badly then somebody else will have to take over that place. We just can't allow people treat things in that way and pull them down just like they did with that centre in the Pine that you had to build about three different times. I think that is a disgrace and that is money we could do with.

So, Mr. Deputy President, in supporting the Resolution I want to say that we look for a greater community spirit and an awareness that Barbados belongs to all of us. Thank you.

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

ADJOURNMENT

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS: Mr. Deputy President, I believe we have completed the business of today. I beg to move that this sitting be now adjourned *sine die*.

The question that the sitting be adjourned sine die was put to the Senate and agreed to and Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT adjourned the Senate accordingly.
3.00 p.m.

CONTENTS

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

SENATOR HON. L. V. H. LEWIS 218

Annual Report and Audited Financial Statement
of the National Petroleum Corporation for the
period April, 1989 to March 1990.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE AMEND- MENTS TO THE BARBADOS PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN, 1990 218

Senator Hon. L. V. H. Lewis, 218, 233; Senator
T. E. Barker, 221; Senator Mrs. A. Straughn,
225; Senator J. A. F. Cole, 226; Senator Dr. F.
W. Alleyne, 227; Senator Mrs. V. C. Fraser,
228; Senator J. G. Bellamy, 231.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE COMPUL- SORY ACQUISITION OF LAND AT FOUL

BAY, ST. PHILIP TO PROVIDE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES 233

Senator Hon. L. V. H. Lewis, 233; Senator Miss
M. A. Mottley, 233; Senator Mrs. V. C. Fraser,
236.

SUSPENSION 231

Senator Hon. L. V. H. Lewis, 231.

ADJOURNMENT 237

Senator Hon. L. V. H. Lewis, 237.

SPEAKERS IN THIS ISSUE

ALLEYNE, Senator Dr. F. W.
BARKER, Senator T. E.
BELLAMY, Senator J. G.
COLE, Senator J. A. F.
FRASER, Senator Mrs. V. C.
JORDAN, His Honour Senator M. deL.
LEWIS, Senator Hon. L. V. H.
MOTTLEY, Senator Miss M. A.
STRAUGHN, Senator Mrs. A.