
THE SENATE DEBATES

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

FIRST SESSION 1991 - 96

SENATE

Wednesday, March 04, 1992

The Senate met in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings, on Wednesday, March 04, 1992, at 11.15 a.m.

PRESENT

His Honour Senator Sir Frank L. WALCOTT, K.A., O.B.E., LL.D., (President)

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 A. J. N. PHILLIPS

Senator the Honourable Dr. C. D. CLARKE (Minister of Trade, Industry and Commerce)

Senator Dr. F. W. ALLEYNE

Senator Mrs. M. BARKER-WELCH

Senator Dr. E. A. SIMMONS

Senator J. J. PAYNE

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

Senator Mrs. M. WALCOTT, S.C.M

Senator W. L. INNISS

Senator the Rev. Canon J. L. SPRINGER

Senator J. G. BELLAMY

Senator J. A. F. COLE

Senator T. E. BARKER

Senator Miss M. A. MOTTLEY

Prayers were led by Fr. Errington 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: Training Report for the years April 01, 1985 to March 31, 1990.

MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE SENATE AND MOVED BY A MINISTER

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS: Mr. Deputy President, I beg to move that Standing Order 45(2) be suspended for today's sitting.

The question that Standing Order 45(2) be suspended for today's sitting was put to the Senate and agreed to.

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS: Mr. Deputy President, I beg to move that Senator Joseph Payne be appointed to perform the duties of Chairman for today's sitting.

The question that Senator Joseph Payne be appointed to act as Chairman for today's sitting was put to the Senate and agreed to.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS: Mr. Deputy President, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Caribbean Meteorological Organisation (Incorporation) Act, Cap. 15C be read a first time.

I also beg to move that the Bill which makes provision with respect to Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters be read a first time.

The question that the aforesaid named Bills, that is the Bill to amend the Caribbean Meteorological Organisation (Incorporation) Act as well as the Bill relating to the Mutual Assistance In Criminal Matters, 1992 be read a first time was put to the Senate and agreed to.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

ORDER NO. 1 – CARIBBEAN METEOROLOGICAL ORGANISATION (INCORPORATION) (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1992

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS: Mr. Deputy President, the Caribbean Meteorological Organisation is one of the regional institutions which is headquartered for purposes of the training institution in Barbados. A few years ago a decision was taken during the annual meetings of the Organisation to change the name from Caribbean Meteorological Institute to the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology. This changed name reflects accurately the purposes for which the Organisation is established and the functions which it seeks to influence in carrying out its activities.

The Met. Institute, as it is referred to, functions in the area of meteorology and relates to Government Department for Meteorological Services. It also functions in the area of hydrology and relates to the activities of the Water Authority as well as the Ministry of Agriculture. The Institution serves a very important role in the area, if you take one instance, that which is in relation to its involvement with weather patterns and the usefulness of that organisation at times during the year when hurricanes may or may not descend upon us.

This amendment is really only a tidying up of a decision which was taken a few years ago and it allows Barbados to come into line with other countries most of whom have ratified the name change by the necessary legislation.

I beg to move, therefore, that this Bill be read a second time.

SENATOR T. E. BARKER: Mr. Deputy President, we on this side are very glad that the Bill has come before us to tidy up the arrangements, especially in the renaming of the Met Institute. The Institute serves a vital role in the affairs of our country especially as we in Barbados and other Caribbean countries are prone to unusual weather activities during the latter part of the year.

Sir, I am a little bit distressed to read that some years ago the Institute was having problems with Governments in terms of their paying their dues to the Organisation. Sir, I would love to use this opportunity to appeal to Governments in the Caribbean to make sure that this vital

Institute is kept going, since as we saw a few years ago the damage that a hurricane did to Barbados.

We believe, Sir, that if we had proper forecasting – indeed, there was proper forecasting but probably, Sir, the citizens of the country were not paying as much attention as they should have been doing to the forecasts in order to get the facts of the hurricane – Sir, we cannot prevent hurricanes from coming but, as we are all aware, we can lessen the affect by taking the necessary precautions.

Sir, I would like the Governments to ensure that the Institute is given the necessary funds, not only to carry out the functions which they are doing now, but to expand in certain areas. Sir, we know that equipment like radar and all of that is very expensive and we want to ensure that the Institute functions properly.

Sir, the Institute not only serves the function of forecasting, but it does a lot of work in training. At the University of the West Indies now they are offering as part of a degree, a course in meteorology. The teachers come from the Institute and over the years they have turned out a lot of graduates in meteorology, not only at the degree level, but at the technical level where a lot of training is done. Sir, it serves a very important role. But I want to see its role strengthened especially in the area of water resources development. As the Minister said, hydrology is part of the business of the Institute.

11.30 a.m.

As we in Barbados seek to develop and to diversify our agriculture, the whole area of water resources, the availability of water and the proper management of water resources, become vital. I remember reading some years ago, in the late seventies, that the Water Authority was forecasting that by the year 2000 a lot of the water that at present runs from the hills in St. Andrew and St. Joseph and runs into the sea would have to be harnessed in order to fulfil the domestic and agricultural needs of the island. If that report is true, we are not far from the year 2000, so I wonder if the Ministry of Agriculture has any plans in this direction. If you are talking about something around the year 2000, we should now be identifying possible sources of funding and getting the technical people working on it so that when the time comes we will have things in place. I hope, Sir, that the Ministry of Agriculture has plans to develop its water resources section to the extent that you will have less water running into the sea, both on the East and the other coasts, especially water that can be used for agricultural purposes.

Sir, the role of agro-meteorology is going to become of more importance, especially as we seek to diversify either around or from sugar – we don't know yet, because there is no clear policy on sugar – but in any case, the Met. Institute and its related agencies are going to be called upon more and more in time to come to give us more data

on rainfall patterns, wind conditions and so on, because these are very important factors in the development of our agriculture. For instance, Sir, up to now I do not know if the farmers are getting enough information about when to plant, what to plant or when to reap. All of these are factors influenced by weather patterns, wind patterns and rainfall patterns, so it is important that the farmers, the people who do the actual planting, get all the information in a timely manner. As we are endeavouring to get into the export business, where the yields become of more importance, we have to ensure that the data and the information from the Institute and other places not only stays within the Ministry of Agriculture, but is disseminated as quickly as possible so that the farming community will become more scientific in their approach to farming.

For instance, Sir, we know that by the month of May the weather starts to change, because traditionally people start planting yams in May, and yams need a lot of water, so that by the month of May we know that the rains are about to come in. Therefore, it is important for lots of reasons that the sugar crop, for example, be harvested before the month of May in order to make optimum use of the weather patterns, because you would not want the rain to come in with fields still to be ploughed. When you have a heavy tractor going into wet earth, you know the problems it will cause, so it is very important that we take advice and information from the Met. Institute and other related agencies to ensure that what happened in 1981 – if you can remember, Sir, the month of April was tremendously wet, I think the wettest April on record, and the result was that a large portion of the crop was not yet harvested because the fields were too wet – when not only did the sugar content of the 1981 crop drop, not only did we have a very bad harvest in 1981, but in the following year, 1982, as a result of what happened in 1981, we also suffered tremendously.

It is essential, Sir, that the reaping of our sugar cane be done and finished before the heavy rains come in. Therefore, in this respect I am a bit distressed that today is March 4,....

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS: Mr. Deputy President, I really was going to wonder if he was going to go to Germany and come back. I do not understand what....

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: What is the point of order?

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS: The point of order is, what is the cane crop to do with this?

SENATOR T. E. BARKER: Mr. Deputy President, we are talking about the effects of weather patterns, rainfall, on the agricultural sector and we are talking about the information that is disseminated by the Met. Institute

and by the Government's Met. Office and how it relates to the reaping of the sugar crop. I am saying that because of the information that is given to us we know that by May, at the latest, because of the weather patterns, all of the sugar cane should be harvested, so I am saying that it distresses me that this is March 4 and up to now we have not started the harvesting of this crop.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Senator Barker, please confine yourself to the matter which we are debating, that is, to the Caribbean Meteorological Organisation, to amending the particular Act. Please confine yourself to that.

SENATOR T. E. BARKER: Yes, Sir, I was confining myself to the activities of the Institute. As I was saying, one of the activities is to give Government and private individuals an idea about the past rainfall patterns and likely weather conditions, especially as I was making the point that they are of direct importance to the growing and the harvesting of agricultural commodities. I was using sugar as an example of what can happen if we ignore the information and the historical data that is available to us. All I am saying is that if we are not careful with the present crop, the rain can come in and halve the crop.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Senator Barker, that has nothing to do with this.

SENATOR T. E. BARKER: Sir, I bow to your greater wisdom.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I understand what you were doing. Well, now you know differently.

SENATOR T. E. BARKER: Thank you very much, Sir. With these few words I want to urge us in here to support the Bill and I want to urge Government, the sugar producers and the unions to make use of the available information and to ensure that this year's sugar crop is harvested before the heavy rains come.

Thank you very much, Sir.

SENATOR Dr. E. A. SIMMONS: Mr. Deputy President, I just want to make a very short intervention which has to do with a few comments made by Senator Barker. I, too, would like to call upon delinquent Governments to pay up their dues to this institution which is very important to us in the Caribbean, but I want to go even further than that. I think that we in the Caribbean, and particularly in Barbados, have a great responsibility. I think we underestimate our brain power – I keep making that point – and we have a commitment to the developing world in sharing and imparting knowledge to those who are in the developing world and are in search of technical information. I think it is time to look at how we use our institutions of learning, the University of the West Indies

and places like the Polytechnic, our health services and, especially, the Meteorological Office in its association with the University of the West Indies. I am quite sure that in a time of economic depression our educational institutions can be used to give services to developing countries for which we can charge them and we can have a great source of income by using our brain power. I keep saying that we underestimate the brain power that we have.

11.40 a.m.

I am calling on these institutions to have a review of the limited amount of areas that they are using. I know for sure that in Africa there are several "small" countries, but a small country in Africa, for example like Malawi, can have a lake that is 365 miles long. We can rope in some of the people who have at times either to forego the knowledge or turn to the developed world and pay very exorbitant fees to get education. That education at times is not even appropriate because the level of development is so far in advance of what they have back home that when they get back home it is not relevant. What I am talking about is relevant education, where we in Barbados and in the Caribbean are between the most developed and the least developed and have a role to play in imparting that education. It is an education that we do not have to give away free.

What I am saying is that, especially in times of severe economic depression, we have to look for different ways of earning and our educational power is one of the areas to look at to solve that sort of a problem.

The last speaker mentioned some very interesting points and I thought that I could not let them pass because, as the Chairman of the Barbados Marketing Corporation, I think it would be remiss of me as he made a statement that Barbados should be telling farmers when to plant and what to plant so that we can be more effective in the export market. I want this Honourable House to know that the Barbados Marketing Corporation has a thrust for the export market of non-traditional crops and a department at the Barbados Marketing Corporation with extension officers whose job is to go out and liaise with small farmers and tell them what time to plant their crops so that we can meet our export commitments to England and North America especially.

Asides.

SENATOR Dr. E. A. SIMMONS: ... and even to Tropi Fresh. We get involved in joint ventures. Some of them fail but some of them are successful. When you are dealing with private ventures all of the ventures do not succeed. If you are following what is going on in the international arena, you would see that General Motors lost \$4 billion last year. That is one of the most powerful companies on the planet Earth. Don't let anybody fool you that every venture Government or the private sector goes

into is going to be successful. If it were so, big business would not allow small people to get any successful ventures. When you go into ventures some will fail, but the important thing is that when you fail you will learn from your failures. You examine why you failed and you get up and move on again. I would not be part of any organisation if I take the failure of a particular project as an overall failure.

We are involved in an export programme which goes not only to Tropi Fresh but to Chandler's Export. Chandler was a Barbadian who now resides in England. We deal with people like him too because we believe at the Barbados Marketing Corporation that one of the things we must strive to do is to find overseas Barbadians committed to Barbados and to deal with them first because they have a commitment to the country from which they came. Very often it is difficult to find such people and you have to deal with people who are trading with South Africa and in everything else and will take boxes of Barbadian potatoes and put South African potatoes in them and label them Barbados potatoes because the Barbados potato has a better value than the South African potato. We have all those experiences, but we have to learn from them.

What we are doing at the Barbados Marketing Corporation is trying to diversify and give the farmers this kind of information to make it easier for them to stay on their land and to plant. A farmer should stay on his land while we are the people doing the selling and the exporting. I am making that point because people must understand that when that statement is made it may be felt that this is an innovation. I want you to know that this is something that is already in place. Of course, it wants expanding but, when you talk about expanding, Barbados has a limited land mass.

That brings me to another area. I think that it is time that Barbados looks at other Caribbean countries to source produce. Guyana is one of the places we have to look at very seriously in terms of sourcing produce for the export market. We have to stop seeing the Caribbean as individuals, Barbados as an individual, Guyana as an individual, St. Vincent as an individual. We are land masses too small to think in such terms.

To get back to the Meteorological Office and to show you how important it is, I will give you, Mr. Deputy President, a simple example of what happened to teach me a lesson. Immediately following Hurricane Gilbert in Jamaica I was at a joint assembly meeting in Luxembourg, I think. We were passing a resolution asking the European countries for aid for natural disasters. The Africans had a resolution dealing with locusts and we had one dealing with hurricanes because of Hurricane Gilbert. The Africans wanted us to fuse the two resolutions under the term of natural disasters and we in the Caribbean, including myself, objected to it because we said that locusts had nothing at

all to do with Barbados. When I got off the plane at Barbados the Caribbean was full of locusts. I don't think it had ever happened in recorded history of the Caribbean before. I make that point because we think we are so knowledgeable and we think that somebody else's problem is not our problem, but every man's problem is everybody's problem. That is what I am saying and I am going to finish where I started. We have to look at the educational facilities in the Caribbean and particularly in Barbados and at sharing and expanding these facilities, not only because it is a matter of getting income but because a better world, a more technical world, is important to us all. We know that, in today's world, there is something called global warming and the greenhouse effect and there is a lot of discussion about this. It has to do with meteorology and with what is going on in the rain forests in Africa, what is going on in Botswana and Namibia in respect to the elephant and it has to do with what is going on in South America, in the Amazon forests with the cutting down of the trees.

There are scientific schools of thought which are miles apart. That is why a Met. Office in the Caribbean sharing knowledge with other developing countries is important. Top scientists on both sides of the spectrum are divided. One set of scientists is saying that the destruction of the ozone layer is caused by the poor environmental conditions and another set of qualified scientists on the other side is saying that it doesn't make any difference, that there is no greenhouse effect. However, it is applicable to us in small countries because, if the greenhouse effect is really true and there is global warming causing the rise of the ocean, it means that, eventually, after the year 2000 we in Barbados, which is only 21 x 16 square miles, stand a chance that the houses along the West Coast and, maybe by the year 3000 not only those houses would be destroyed but there would be no island left at all. We have to use our institutions. We have to bring in expertise. We have to share our knowledge with people in other parts and countries so that we have an interaction. They could tell us what is going on in their country and we could tell them what is going on in our country. We do not always have to be dependent on information flowing from the First World. 11.50 a.m.

It is time we in the developing world set up our own institution and spread those institutions and knowledge. I think that, if there is one point I want to leave is that people in education in developing countries, and I am calling on my friends from the University of the West Indies because I think that is where it should start – I see some of them sitting here in this Honourable Chamber – must be more serious about the knowledge we have. We have excellent and bright people in this country. It is not good enough to carry your brains to the grave. We must share that knowledge with some less fortunate people.

I thank you, Mr. Deputy President.

SENATOR A. MORRISON: Mr. Deputy President, I did not know a simple amendment of this Agreement for the establishment of the Caribbean Meteorological Organisation would have brought such a lecture from Senator Barker to tell us how we should pursue our agricultural policy. He has not been able to talk about it in its true sense in his submission. No one can find fault with the information from the Meteorological Office in past years as far as hurricanes and forecasting is concerned or as far as the kind of information that is given to the Airport every day for the flight of the aircraft over our territory is concerned. I would expect that I would have heard from the Senator of defects in our system when it came to forecasting. The Airport works in conjunction with the Meteorological Office every day. So far it has been very successful.

When it comes to Senator Barker's approach about the agricultural input, the very fact that the Prime Minister in his wisdom has kept Meteorology under the Ministry of Agriculture means that it has a role to play in agricultural development. You must remember, Sir, that over the years we have had information being disseminated on mornings early, at 6.30 a.m., by the Information Unit of the Agriculture Department when people are told what to plant and how to plan the necessary crops for the particular season. That has been an ongoing process. Senator Barker may not have been in Barbados during those years. It appalls me. He has even made the point about the Meteorological Office. I do not know when the Meteorological Office was responsible for reaping sugar cane.

SENATOR T. E. BARKER: On a point of order, Sir. I never said nor hinted that the Meteorological Office was responsible for reaping sugar cane.

SENATOR A. MORRISON: I said I did not know when.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Barker.

SENATOR A. MORRISON: From the Senator's remarks, Sir, I heard him saying that the cane crops should be reaped at a particular time. I do not know when the Meteorological Office has been responsible for the reaping of the cane crop in Barbados.

SENATOR T. E. BARKER: On a point of order, Sir. The Honourable Member is misinterpreting what I said. I never said that the Meteorological Office was responsible for it. All I said was that it must give the information in order to tell us when to reap the crop.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. Senator Morrison, you may ignore Senator Barker.

SENATOR A. MORRISON: I am only giving my account, Sir. I do not know when the occasion has ever arisen in Barbados where the Meteorological Office was responsible for the reaping of the sugar cane crop or for the planting of anything in this country.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: All right, Senator Morrison, you may ignore Senator Barker and proceed.

SENATOR A. MORRISON: I am paraphrasing what the Honourable Member said. He is making a point that I am saying something wrong about what he said. He made the point in this Chamber, not too long ago, that the planting and also the reaping of vegetables are functions of the Meteorological Office. He made that remark here, Sir.

SENATOR T. E. BARKER: Mr. Deputy President, I do not like to interrupt the Honourable Senator but he must not misrepresent what I said. Sir, ask the Honourable Senator to be more truthful. I never hinted that the Meteorological Office was responsible for planting. I said it should give the information to tell us when to plant and when to reap. That is important.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Barker.

SENATOR A. MORRISON: Even in what he has said now, Sir, I do not know that anyone would have to tell anybody in Barbados when to reap their crops. We have been having many problems with praedial larceny. We even passed in this Senate the Praedial Larceny Bill because they are people out there who even reap the farmers' crops before they can reap them. They know when the crops are ripe even before the farmers. Yet I am being told that the Meteorological Office would be able to tell people when to reap their crops. I have never known that a farmer does not know when to reap his crops. I do not know that is a function of the Meteorological Office. Sir, as I was saying, the Government is very conscious of meteorology and the whole function of the Meteorological Office. As far as hydrology is concerned, that was put in more on behalf of Guyana which had water problems especially with drinking water. Barbados has never had a problem in identifying areas for water use in this country. We have been very advanced in our wisdom with water use in this country. We already have the whole Scotland District earmarked, if it comes to that, for our thrust into the 21st Century. We can provide all the water we need in this country.

Last year I came to this Chamber and praised the Government of St. Kitts for lending us a rig to investigate the basin at Applewhaites. We had seven bore holes at Applewhaites. Two are now in use. A 10 inch main is now being laid. We have got as far as Cottage to Golden Ridge in order to help service the St. Joseph area and pump water to Castle Grant. We have always been in the forefront in our water development. We have been doing what is

necessary as far as water resources in this country are concerned. We know where the water is.

We have certain areas earmarked where we have water. We are digging another well at Rockhampton which will increase the storage because we are trying to keep our water resources going as we should. We do not have to be told what to look for in this country as far as water resources are concerned nor do we have to be told how to proceed to help farmers in growing their crops because that has been done in Barbados for the last 15 or 20 years. Farmers are very conservative in their habits. They know what to expect. They know when to plant and what to plant. There is no doubt about that.

What we have been concerned about in Barbados for years is the question of marketing. We have had some problems in farming for years but farmers know how to produce. They have produced even to the point where we had at some time carrots being thrown all over River Road because there was over-production of carrots. There is no other country in the Caribbean that can grow carrots better than Barbados. Get that straight. All we need to do in agriculture is to get some marketing.

Sir, I did not know that we would hear such a thing today as meteorology that we were not prepared for. I just had to put the record straight as far as that was concerned. I would like to support this simple amendment, Sir.
12.00 noon.

SENATOR Mrs. V. C. FRASER: Mr. Deputy President, I am very happy to see the amendment. One of the things that I feel we have to do, and I have been saying this repeatedly in this Honourable Chamber, is to get the information to the people. We need to do a full public relations programme on this and several other important areas. I do not think that many people are aware of the role of the Met. office especially where it relates to agriculture. I feel that we have to do a lot about that. I am also concerned about people wanting services, other governments, training and so on and not really paying up promptly. We cannot get anywhere unless people understand that if you have a position it brings with it responsibility. Therefore they either want the Caribbean or they do not want the Caribbean. They either want these services or they do not want them. It is not good enough for Barbados to bear so many people's burdens when we have our own burdens to bear. But nevertheless we are still involved in keeping many of these regional institutions going. I hope that would be known to those persons who have made those mistakes.

One of the things I would also like to say here is that we in Barbados fail to recognize – and I agree with Senator Simmons, and there was somebody else who mentioned it – that we are not really using our brain power. This is

something I keep saying and I have been involved in this type of activity where you are trying to promote your own people and other people are trying to pull them down.

I remember many years ago we had a Barbadian here who was very highly qualified in Agro-Meteorology when he came back on the scene. I do not think a lot of people are aware that this Barbadian is that qualified and that we have so much technology sitting down in some university or universities across the Caribbean. We bring people in to have some studies and these people cost us a lot of money. They cost us in feeding their families; housing them, while we have the technology here, because we have people who have not only been trained in Barbados and this is a thing that we do not seem to look at.

Mr. Deputy President, I should like us to utilize to the fullest our human resources. At this time we have many. People can go and do consultancies from Barbados in other parts of the world and earn foreign exchange. I am speaking of areas like wind energy and solar energy and all of these things which are a must nowadays. People are trying to save fuel. They are trying to conserve energy. We have the qualified personnel in Barbados. I think some of these people feel a little bit underutilized or unutilized after they have put in a number of years of study abroad. They have had training. They have had on the spot workshops. They have done various projects that have been very successful.

Those of us who travel and see these various things know that they exist. I remember one of the first solar projects I saw was at St. Augustine done by a prominent Barbadian for his exam. When he started to utilize some of the technology to dry sorrel a lot of people wondered what foolishness he was doing. I think it is really hurtful when you know that you are doing something to come back to utilize for the benefit of your country and people say: "Look we need this", and bring in a consultant from abroad. I think there must be a rethinking of what we have. We must call on people who have knowledge in a particular subject area. This concerns me very much because I know this is very futuristic. I think we ought to set a course for the subjects our students need to study and are going to take us through the years. If we keep pushing one area of activity or a few subject areas irrelevant to development then it means that all of us are going to suffer.

I sincerely hope that all persons within my hearing will realize that this has to be a must for the future, training and retraining of people in this area of activity. They have to catch up with technology because it changes very quickly. Today something is done by one method and tomorrow it is done by another.

Therefore, I want strongly to say, Mr. Deputy President, that we need dissemination of information, we

need exchange of information, also a very vital point. Whereas we are disseminating, we need to share, to exchange. We pass on ours to somebody else and they pass on theirs to us. They might have a cheaper method of doing something we do not know about. They may have a different level of technology to get there easier. In a developing country like Barbados, we need this now. This is very serious.

I am also calling for a wider information programme. I think if people know about something they tend to feel part of it. I would like to see the media involved very seriously with programmes of this type. I think there is too much emphasis on a lot of things that you can learn nothing out of. I see so many little, frivolous things sometimes, little stories that I wonder why it is there. To me it is not anything telling me something or teaching me or other people something. I think the media has a role to play in this century and beyond. If they are thinking seriously about development of people they have to feed the information through the electronic media and also the print media.

I hope nobody misunderstands what I am saying when I am talking here about this particular area of activity. I do not remember seeing anything in a newspaper dealing with agro-meteorology or anything of this sort. There are people here who can be interviewed on these subject areas, hydrology and so on. All of us will then have some information. I believe there are a lot of university students out there looking for that type of information who would be only too happy if it can be passed on to them through the media and on a one to one basis as well.

Mr. Deputy President, with those remarks I hope we will be better educated on these very important areas which can redound only to the good of this society and to other Caribbean societies, because we have to think of ourselves as one in the Caribbean region. We are just a small region with a few people and we are next door to each other. Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy President.
12.10 p.m.

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS: Mr. Deputy President, I should only like to confirm that the institution makes a very substantial contribution towards the development of persons who were trained in meteorology in collaboration with the University of the West Indies. Also, that the institution has, over time, contributed to education of persons from the continent of Africa, the same way as the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic and the Community College in Barbados play roles in terms of tertiary education for persons from countries in Africa.

The suggestion of Senator Simmons that we may increase the opportunities available is well made and

clearly understood, so that Barbados can be seen as marketing knowledge for the benefit of Barbados and for the benefit of developing countries.

In terms of the harnessing of the underground water resources, the Institute is collaborating with the Ministry of Agriculture in terms of mapping streams which flow in Barbados. They assured me a few weeks ago that there were problems because of the fact that they are accustomed to mapping trends of rivers whereas there are no rivers in Barbados. The fact is that in mapping the underground streams the flows are so small that it calls for additional technology but they are working on these so that there are substantial benefits which presently accrue and others which are probably there just for the taking.

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

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

On the motion of SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS, Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT left the Chair and the Senate went into Committee on the Bill, SENATOR J. J. PAYNE in the Chair.

COMMITTEE

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The Senate is in Committee.

Clauses 1 and 2 were called and passed.

On the motion of SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Bill in Committee and Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motions of SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS, the Bill was read a third time and was passed and cited as Caribbean Meteorological Organisation (Incorporation) (Amendment) Act, 1992.

Order No. 2 was called – To move the passing of a Resolution to approve the sale of land at Hillcrest, Beachmont, St. Joseph, to Lindsay I. Worrell.

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS: Mr. Deputy President, this Resolution authorises the disposal and vesting of lands after sale to Mr. Lindsay Worrell. The land, situate at Hillcrest, Beachmont in the parish of St. Joseph, forms part of a larger parcel of land purchased by the Crown in its right as Government from a Mrs. Charles in 1984 for the purpose of establishing a community centre.

Apparently, before Government acquired the land from Mrs. Charles, she had obtained Town Planning

permission and had subdivided it into 13 residential lots. Mr. Worrell was one of the persons who had entered into an agreement to purchase part of the land.

When Government was no longer interested in retaining this land, an offer was made to sell it back to the original owner but the owner declined the offer of Government and Mr. Worrell was asked whether he was interested in buying the land at the price. After negotiation, it was agreed that the land would be sold at \$1.50 per square foot. The Resolution is now before us to enable the sale of 1 698 square metres of land described in the Schedule to the Resolution to be sold to Mr. Worrell.

I beg to move that the Resolution be passed.

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

MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS BILL, 1992

Order No. 3 was called – To move the Second Reading of the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Bill, 1992.

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS: Mr. Deputy President the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Bill is before us so that Barbados may engage in mutual assistance in criminal matters with Commonwealth countries, principally on the basis of the Harare scheme, and also between Barbados and non-Commonwealth Countries by extension under the provisions of Part IV of the Bill.

The Harare Scheme represents an agreement which was reached and approved by Commonwealth Law Ministers during their meeting in Zimbabwe in 1986. The Scheme establishes a framework for greatly enhanced co-operation between the Courts, prosecution authorities, and law enforcement agencies among the Commonwealth countries. The Scheme follows a long tradition of informal co-operation and sets out procedures to ease substantially the task of prosecution authorities where a witness or crucial evidence in another Commonwealth country may be available. The purpose of the Scheme is to increase the level and scope of assistance rendered between Commonwealth Governments in criminal matters. It augments and in no way derogates from existing forms of co-operation both formal and informal and it does not preclude the development of enhanced arrangements in other ways.

12.20 p.m.

The legislation, while ensuring the rights of the accused, will allow Barbados both as a requesting or a requested country to assist or be assisted in ways which include after obtaining evidence and obtaining articles and

things by way of search or seizure, and arranging for the attendance of persons after locating and identifying those persons. It provides for effecting the transfer of prisoners, for tracing of property or serving of documents, and for the obtaining of orders in the nature of restraining orders.

The central authority under the Act will be the Attorney-General who may by order published in the *Official Gazette* designate any person or authority as the central authority. I made reference earlier to Part IV of the Act which allows the provisions of the Bill to be extended to non-Commonwealth countries and this will be done by bilateral treaty of assistance in criminal matters, notwithstanding that, in origin, of the Bill was aimed specifically at collaboration between Commonwealth countries.

Mr. Deputy President, the enactment of this legislation will allow Barbados to meet its bilateral obligations where they exist under the Mutual Assistance Agreement signed between the Government of Barbados and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning mutual assistance in relation to drug trafficking. In addition, when this legislation is enacted, it will bring Barbados in line with the requirements of Article 7 of the 1985 United Nations Convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and will allow Barbados to accede to the Convention.

It is considered, Mr. Deputy President, that this legislation is another step towards Barbados' further involvement in the international network which seeks to respond to the problems arising from criminal matters through trading in illicit drugs.

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

SENATOR Miss M. A. MOTTLEY: Sir, as the Honourable Senator stated in his introductory remarks, this Bill finds itself before us as a result of negotiations and indeed of the Scheme which was agreed at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference held in Harare following the Commonwealth Law Ministers Conference which took place in 1986 prior to that. Sir, if one looks at the whole history of international mutual assistance, there has always been the spirit of co-operation in civil proceedings. One can go back and see the results of the Hague Conference which resulted in a treaty which allowed the exchange of information and service of proceedings abroad in civil proceedings. But for many years there was a view that a country's criminal proceedings were almost sacrosanct and that another country never got involved in dealing with the application of a country's penal code to its citizens, whether or not that person happened to have been in the other country. However, with the growth of illicit drug dealing and of a number of financial crimes emanating from the profits of

that illicit trade in drugs, many of the countries in the world have found it necessary to implement a number of procedures to enable greater co-operation and indeed to run counter to the traditional view of non-cooperation in matters of a criminal nature involving the penal code of sovereign nations.

If we go back, Sir, as far as the 1950's, there was an agreement within the European Community which allowed for that kind of exchange of information in criminal proceedings. However, nothing was done in most of the other countries in the world for quite sometime until 1968 when the United States, whose method of approach has been more that of dealing with bilateral treaties, sought to have a treaty put in place with the Swiss Government, particularly because of the problems they were facing with tax evasion from a number of American citizens seeking to hide behind the provisions of the Swiss banking laws which guaranteed secrecy. This came about, Sir, and the 1968 Treaty was one of the few treaties allowing for the provision of double criminality, as far as the United States Government was concerned. By double criminality, Sir, we only mean that the offence had to be an offence in both countries. That Treaty took sometime to be negotiated and was not signed until 1973. Since then the United States Government has signed a number of other treaties with Governments in this region such as the Cayman Islands, Colombia, and a number of other countries except on a far more simplified mode and indeed, Sir, not even including the double criminality provisions which they conceded to the Swiss Government.

As a result of this, Sir, Commonwealth Governments, I believe, realised that they were being left behind in the race and a decision was taken as far back as 1983 that provisions needed to be drafted and outlined in order to prepare for this Scheme and to allow for greater co-operation in the Commonwealth countries, particularly since the drug war had already started by the beginning of the early eighties in a massive way.

I am going through this outline, Sir, before I make any other comments because I think it is essential for us to know exactly where we are coming from, why we are in this position and to relate that to where we are in Barbados, Sir. As a result of that decision in 1983, Professor David McClean, a consultant with the Commonwealth, was given the job of outlining the proposals for the Scheme in June 1984. A conference was held in 1986. Some 29 countries participated. One of the things that disturbs me, Sir, is our lack of active participation, as a Government, in the drafting of the overall Scheme and indeed in the amendments that were thrashed out when they were still planning the Scheme.

Jamaica played a very active role in it. I would want to quote from a document of the Commonwealth Secretariat on the same Scheme relating to Mutual

Assistance In Criminal Matters within the Commonwealth. I will make that a document of this Chamber, Sir. At page 54 where it deals with the implementation of the Scheme and the history of it, paragraph 5 noted that the Jamaica Government entered a note of 4 reservations. In relation to the Scheme, Sir, it reserved the right in cases where it has required that information which it intends to supply pursuant to a request for assistance be kept confidential, not to grant such a request unless the requesting country undertakes not to disclose that information. It goes on further to deal with a requirement of reciprocity. In other words, the Jamaica Government reserved the right not to grant requests from countries which would not be competent under their laws to accede to similar requests from Jamaica.

Sir, these may all sound specious to people who are not involved directly in it, but are matters which can affect one's civil liberties greatly. Therefore, I believe that greater attention really should have been paid to this Bill. I will say here, sir, that I am extremely saddened that a Bill introducing measures as far reaching as this and altering the structure of interaction of our criminal judicial system and criminal policing system interact with other systems internationally has not been sent to Committee for greater consideration. I believe, Sir, that I am speaking with justification when I say that when I pick up this Bill and ask the majority of legislators within both Chambers of this Parliament what is inside of this Bill, not more than five persons can answer me with any degree of understanding. I think that, for us to allow legislation to pass through these Chambers purely because Barbados has been signatory to a scheme, without further reference to how that legislation will affect our civil liberties, the way we do business, the conduct of our judicial officers, and indeed the conduct of our policing officers is highly irresponsible of us. If one followed the debate in the Other Place, it was clear that was the attitude taken in That Place as well. This debate has not started in here and I hope that the commentary that can be made in this Chamber will be far different from the one that can be made in respect of the other Chamber. I do not want that criticism to be misinterpreted as a criticism of the substantive parts of the Bill, because I believe that the Bill is necessary. However, I believe that before we implement it we must be cautious as to what we are agreeing to, and in the same way as we can be cautious enough to send Domestic Violence (Protection Orders) and Praedial Larceny legislation to Committee, I believe that a matter like this which substantially alters concepts within our criminal justice system needs to be sent to Committee as well.

12.30 p.m.

Sir, what I can say is that there have been a number of areas where Barbados' legislation reserves at least a discretion in dealing with what they refuse in terms of assistance, and one is heartened to see that our legislation goes wider than the normal exclusion for political and

military offences only, but indeed goes wide enough under clause 18 to cover discriminatory offences and indeed, Sir, covers other offences which would be contrary to our Constitution. One of the reasons why this is a Scheme and not a treaty is because the Commonwealth Governments felt at the time that, if they locked themselves into a treaty which would then create international legal obligations, it would create problems for many Commonwealth countries in relation to their Constitutions and in relation to implementation, because of a paucity of resources. That is why this is a Scheme which, therefore, is not binding under Article 102 of the United Nations Charter and will only therefore be up to the discretion of the Commonwealth Governments in particular.

I am heartened, too, to see that the legislation provides for bilateral treaties outside of the Commonwealth, because indeed we know that, being on the South American border, the origin of much of the drug traffic – and with the Central American strip and other Caribbean countries, like the Cayman Islands, who are not part of the Commonwealth – being much of the activity for the illegal financial traffic, that we need to have co-operation with them in a world in which it is becoming easier and easier to move money. In fact, the hardest place it must be to move capital right now is within CARICOM, but everywhere else in the world it is easy to move capital. I see Senator Clarke smiling and I know that he will do his best to try and deal with that in the CARICOM meetings, Sir.

But, quite seriously, Sir, I make the point that as a result of it being a Scheme, Barbados has been able to draft its legislation slightly wider than the Scheme which would have been the subject of the contents of this monograph produced by the Commonwealth Secretariat. Indeed, there is a whole set of information like this which would have been available to any committee to dealing with this matter. I am really disheartened that, as legislators, we do not take a more serious view when it comes to criminal matters, especially at a time like this.

Sir, there are a number of other matters that cause one to be concerned. This is really part of a trilogy of Acts. You had the Drug Abuse (Prevention and Control) Act first, you had the Proceeds of Crime Act next and now you have the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Bill. If you look at other Commonwealth jurisdictions you will see that as the order in which they have come too, all the more reason why I sound the caution about more care in what we are passing. I am sorry that the Proceeds of Crime Act and the Drug Abuse (Prevention and Control) Act passed through this Parliament as they did. I speak out very strongly against the trafficking in illegal drugs, but one also has to be cautious in the type of legislation one passes. One of the major faults with our Drug Abuse (Prevention and Control) Act has been the definition of "trafficking", the fact that it is not an active definition but it is purely

possession of over a certain amount. I think that is a fundamental mistake, especially when one examines the culture of Barbados and the Caribbean where traditionally in the Caribbean there has been a use – and all of us know it – of various teas that have had a hallucinatory effect upon people. There is also the presence of religious groupings, such as the Rastafarian community, who believe in the use of marijuana, not other illegal drugs, either through tea or through smoking, for purposes pertaining to their religion. Therefore, Sir, when you say that anything over 15 grams is a trafficable amount, that is a ridiculous assertion in our community. You will find that a fellow who may even have as much as 50 grams may just be a personal user. While you do not condone it, you have to understand the difference and distinction between possession and trafficking, because the sentences being attached to both vary greatly and, indeed, the sentences attaching to trafficking are far more serious than those relating to possession. That is an example of what I mean when I say that we have to be far more careful what we pass as law in this country. While you can do it, it is not sufficient only to make a political speech on the Bill and sit down without reference to the provisions of the Bill. While it is fine, and all well and good to do that sometimes, when you are dealing with major legislation you need to address your mind to the provisions, because they are provisions which will affect each and every one of us in here.

Suppose a request came down for a man by the name of Joe Payne. There may be many Joe Paynes. I do not know who Joe Payne is, but suppose as a result of this thing all kinds of information relating to the private business of this one goes up by mistake. These are things that need to be looked at, not only in isolation with illicit drugs, but also in conjunction with the Exchange of Information Agreement which was signed between the United States Government and Barbados when we signed the Double Taxation Treaty. Then there are a whole host of other things. I know many of us here who really are not cognisant, and there is nothing wrong with that, for we are not trained in negotiating treaties relating to criminal mutual assistance matters. If we don't know we must ask. It is not good enough for us just to pass it through here without any further reference. One of the reasons why I say so is that here we find a Bill relating to Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters which has only resulted from a Scheme outlined in 1986 and therefore has had a relatively short life. Therefore the Barbados Government has really brought this legislation quite expeditiously, but that is in the overall context of a number of criminal law Bills which still lie in the Attorney General's Chambers, and are needed far more urgently than any Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Bill. I am not saying we do not need the Bill, but we need the others far more urgently. They deal with all criminal activity domestically. This Bill will probably deal with 5 per cent of criminal activity in this country. Perhaps in the initial stages it may be more beneficial to other countries

than it is to us. So, Sir, I am making a plea, especially now that there seems to be so much panic about criminal activity in this country and it has gone so far as to affect our primary earner of foreign exchange as direct criminal activity within the tourist industry, that the legislation in the Attorney General's Chambers, a Theft Bill – Senator Inniss who was President of the Bar Association can verify much of this – a Criminal Evidence Bill, and an Offence Against the Person Bill all drafted, All of these things, Sir, relate to crimes we are complaining about in this country daily. I am saying that it is time they be brought down so that our courts can deal with those who are brought before them with the greatest sense of urgency.

12.40 p.m.

Sir, we have been attempting to deal with a festering leg with a small strip of Band-Aid. Believe me, the legislation and the criminal justice system as it exists now cannot deal with the pressure of criminal activity in this country. That is why, Sir, as far back as 1981, the present Leader of the Opposition, as Attorney General, started to implement provisions for the establishment of a crime research unit which would scientifically assess the pattern of crime in this country and all other matters relating to criminal activity, whether between the prisons or the courts to assess on a long term and scientific basis how best we, as a country, could deal with it.

I believe Professor Howard Jones from the University of Cardiff was one of the persons instrumental then in trying to get that crime research unit established. Indeed, someone was sent from the Attorney General's Chambers to the University of Cardiff for preliminary training. Unfortunately, Sir, as with the Criminal Evidence Bill and the Theft Bill and the Offences Against the Person Bill, criminal matters in this country prior to now never occupied a large priority on anybody's list. As I said, I know that you can ask Senator Inniss. Any other President of the Bar Association will also tell you they have fought over the last 10 to 15 years for greater priority to be attached to criminal legislation, and, indeed, to be attached to reform of a criminal justice system set up in the 1950's with rules then for a Barbados with far less crime than we have today. Also, there has been over the years since then expanded jurisdiction for the magistrates. New statutes have given the magistrates more jurisdiction. For example, a matter which we passed in here very recently, the Domestic Violence (Protection Orders) Act is going to increase the work of the magistracy considerably. Yet there are 2 criminal magistrates for Bridgetown. We have Assizes now, Sir, that run 6 and 7 weeks and sometimes 8 weeks instead of the usual 4 weeks.

Sir, these matters must occupy the urgent attention of the Government. It has heartened me that when I pick up the Barbados Labour Party Manifesto, a document of this House, on page one, since 1990, ever since we heard about these gangs, even though it was denied at the time that

there were gangs, we have been calling for the establishment of a National Task Force on Crime. Sir, we cannot wait any longer. The time is now. We have to deal with it and the fact that this is on page 1 of the Barbados Labour Party's Manifesto shows the urgency with which we treat this matter. On page 2 we go on to deal with the whole spectrum of criminal legislation to be passed.

I do not intend to defend the Barbados Labour Party because it was not passed between 1984 and 1986. That is not my role here, Sir. I know that a number of Acts were passed between 1976 and 1981, indeed, more legislation than has ever been passed in any one parliamentary term in this country. I am sorry they did not accord the criminal justice system the same priority they accorded family law and civil law. However, Sir, because it wasn't done is no reason why this Government can't do it now. Certainly, this Government has had 6 years to deal with it and 3 years of what lawyers would call "constructive notice" and, by 1991, moving into actual notice, of the heightened criminal activity in this country. One only needs to look at the police reports going as far back as 1989 where we see the increase in crimes relating to offences against the person, indeed, relating to sexual offences on pages 17, 18 and 19 – I do not know if this is a document of the House – of the Royal Barbados Police Annual Report for 1989, over 1988 we had 2,432 offences against the person detected, and by 1989 that number had increased by over 250. That's only for indictable offences, that is, the more serious offences. The number for the non-indictable offences, the ones done in the magistrates' courts, had increased by 350 from 1988 to 1989. So, the Government had constructive notice at the very least, if not actual notice, from as early as 1990 that we had a spiralling situation of crime. I am saying that it was wrong in not acceding to requests of the present Leader of the Opposition and the present Shadow Minister for Legal Affairs, Mr. David Simmons, for a National Task Force on Crime. It is not a matter of politics that can be played with and I don't intend to play politics with it. That is why I have given the speech I have here today, Sir. I am talking as a concerned citizen of this country who, almost every day of her life, has to deal with this area of activity.

It does not warm the heart that every time you go into court you see 20 and 30 fellows coming in for either breaking and entering and shooting or possession of pipe guns. What hurts is that, given the absence of proper provisions within the criminal justice system, I know that the Honourable Minister of Culture was vilified when a statement was taken out of context in which he referred to magistrates as being foolish. I don't want to refer to them as being foolish. What I will say, Sir, is that there is a practice by some magistrates in this country which does not even allow you to have basic respect for them in the court. People who practise at the Bar in this country, Sir, will know that when you address a magistrate on the Bench, he doesn't answer you. When you ask the magistrate to rule on a point, he doesn't answer you. When the orderly calls

up a case, instead of his answering that, he just decides that he is getting up from the Bench so that nobody stands up when he leaves the court. Then you ask people outside to have respect for the criminal justice system. It can't work so.

Sir, there were orders or a statement was made by the Honourable Minister of Justice in response to the number of escapes that have been taking place over the last 4 to 5 years that prisoners be shackled. I really don't know what to say because I want to be very careful and very measured in my remarks.

12.50 p.m.

Nowhere have I seen anything under the law that would allow, especially when you are carrying them into the docks, for the shackling of a man's foot like if he is a slave coming off of one of the Middle Passage boats. What is worse is that any adherence to an administrative direction from the Minister of Justice relating to a matter that affects a man's human rights may be interpreted in the wrong way and cause one to question the independence of the judiciary. I want to say no more on that topic, Sir. It is a very delicate matter. I raise it only to ask those who have responsibility for dealing with it to do so before a number of actions are filed in relation to it. It is inhumane and it is not right. Further, however low a man has gone that does not give us the right to shackle him. Two wrongs do not make a right, Sir. I do not want to be part of any criminal justice system that does not acknowledge a person's human basic rights.

I saw in the Commission of Enquiry relating to the escape of prisoners, only when it was made public that Peter Bradshaw did not have a bed and a pillow to sleep on. All of a sudden everybody rushed. I want everybody to rush now about the shackling of men's feet when they go into the dock. Sir, if you want to shackle them when you are carrying them from court to the Prisons, that is fine, but not when they are in court. I am not representing anybody with shackles on their feet in the dock. I am not doing it. Therefore, if you are going to deprive them of legal representation, that is a matter for the court but I am not doing it. I believe that is the feeling of a number of other lawyers in this country who are extremely disheartened. It is time something is done about that, Sir. Essentially what I am saying is the time has come for a serious reform of our criminal justice system. You cannot deal with a festering need with a strip of Band-Aid plaster anymore. That is what we have. We have a system which is being subjected to a larger amount of criminal activity in relation to violent offences and murders.

Prior to 1970 drug offences were virtually not known in this country. I believe my seniors in the profession can testify to that. We now have drug offences occupying the largest percentage of work in the criminal courts in Bridgetown. We, as legislators, have now given the

magistrates more work with the Domestic Violence (Protection Orders) Act and we still expect them to run the 2 criminal courts. Do you know what the reality is, Sir? When you get in there in the morning, especially if that court is doing the new cases, that court cannot start any substantive work before 11.30 a.m. or 12 o'clock. While it is true we have two hardworking and diligent magistrates now in the criminal court who, unlike others, are prepared to work until 4.00 p.m. and 5.00 p.m. and, indeed, have had me in there some evenings until 6.30 p.m., while there are 2 women who are doing their best in terms of getting rid of the workload, they cannot make it. It is impossible. You need to increase the number of criminal courts magistrates in Bridgetown and now, not next month or the month after. The same way I believe they want to fill posts within this Parliament for a Sergeant-at-Arms and things like that, that money should be spent paying a magistrate in Bridgetown. The same way as \$65 000 a month is being paid at St. Joseph Hospital, I am saying apply that money to the magistracy in Bridgetown.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: All right. Let us be relevant.

SENATOR Miss M. A. MOTTLEY: I am not going down that road, Sir. I only make that point because I feel too strongly about the criminal justice system in this country. The truth is that the number of young people coming before the criminal justice system is frightening because, once a man is tainted by the law and exposed to the criminal elements, there is always that temptation for him to go back.

That brings me to the next point. In addition to increasing the number of magistrates in the criminal courts in Bridgetown, I am asking that we look at reforming to see whether or not we need a court that deals exclusively with new cases and guilty pleas. It serves two purposes, (1) the other courts can get ahead with substantive work from 9.00 a.m. straight back through and (2) it means that when the Police tender information relating to the accused person as to whether or not he should be granted bail, at least it would be before a different magistrate from the one who would try the case. As we all know, under the criminal law, you cannot prejudice an accused person by bringing out his antecedents to make the magistrate feel that he is a person who is more disposed to committing crimes.

I do not think it is too much for us to ask that, while you establish your National Task Force on Crime, while you take back up and re-establish a crime research unit, the steps towards a commission which were taken by Mr. Henry Forde along with Professor Howard Jones from the University of Cardiff, while you also set up a commission for reform of the criminal justice system to report within 90 days and for the Government to act on the report swiftly and not to allow it to sit down like other reports have such

as the Unemployment Task Force, *et cetera*, while they are asking for that, I believe that the Minister of Justice can still make provision to allow for the attachment of at least one other magistrate to the criminal jurisdiction. Sir, I am telling you that the conditions are horrendous.

This moves me on to the third point which is that you cannot look at that aspect of the criminal justice system without looking at your policy relating to punishment at Glendairy Prisons. I believe the time has come for us, especially dealing with figures where there is a large percentage of people who are coming before the courts for the first time under the ages of 19, to establish a young offenders' prison. When a fellow goes into prison for the first time, even on remand, you are exposing him to other people who will now begin to train him in the trade of criminal activity. There needs, therefore, to be an acceptance of that fact and a separation of young first offenders from the general criminal population in this country.

The Barbados Labour Party's Manifesto is full and very expansionary on it. I believe that Mr. David Simmons, on almost every opportunity he gets to talk on this topic, shows the benefits of his training in criminology and has given an expansive insight on the reforms that are necessary within our penal system. It will also require not sending up to Glendairy a number of other people who presently go up there for debt, for example, because you are taking up room that you need. When you take up that room they do not put 2 and 4 people in a cell. They only put 1, or 3, or 5. Those of us who know about the criminal judicial system would know why. The point is, when you crowd the prison with those people up there for debt you are only therefore giving the criminals more time to spend together, especially at night. That is when the criminal activity would abound even further. I am talking about knowledge of it, Sir.

I believe that urgent reform of our penal system is required too. I think the establishment of a prison or borstal for young offenders is a priority and, indeed, the removal of a number of people who are presently sent to Glendairy for punishment like refusing to pay a debt and a number of first offenders for possession of drugs have no right at Glendairy. I guarantee you, Sir, that a lot of them are suffering more from a medical problem of addiction than from a criminal predilection. They need medical treatment rather than criminal punishment. Our system needs to take account of that especially, if it is geared enough to raise the ridiculous amount of 15 grams that we have for possession of marijuana that is defined as trafficking thereby putting down as criminals a lot of people who really have a medical problem. You are only exposing them to other criminal elements who will teach them how to make pipe guns and other things.

Sir, I am not asking this Honourable Chamber or, indeed, the Honourable Minister of Justice, to take my word. I want him to listen to my experiences.
1.00 p.m.

But I want him to set up the commission, the National Task Force on Crime immediately. It is disgusting that the rest of us have to pay for the criminal and wanton acts of, I tell you, Sir, it is not more than 1 000 Bajans in this country. But 249 000 of us paying for them. People talk about bad areas. If you go into an area like Bush Hall they tell you that Bush Hall is bad but the reality of it, Sir, is that if you find 30 bad men among the 4 000 people living in Bush Hall, you will have found a lot. Let us not feel that it is of crisis proportions and that we cannot handle it. It is true that it is much more than we have ever had to deal with before, but it is not more than we can deal with.

I argue, Sir, that with proper management of our resources, with proper and timely action being taken within the criminal justice system and within criminal penal code and constant monitoring of a crime research unit we can face the task at hand. We do not have to shudder and worry about reports going out on CNN about bullets going through a coach of tourists. None of us likes to hear that, Sir. Wherever you go people are only worrying about their safety. We do not want that here. I certainly do not want it. I am not planning to die in any hurry. I have another 40 or 50 years to live. I am not fooling myself. That is true. In those circumstances, I want to ensure that the country I live in is safe, one in which we can continue to keep our heads above water and not have to go around begging anybody. We can earn our way through this world and we can continue to earn our way through this world. We have people who understand that you cannot trifle with people's privacy nor with their body or property, whether they are tourists or whether they are Bajans.

I tell you that you are not going to deal with the problem until you deal with the criminal justice system, until you deal with proper management of your resources in the police force, the prisons and elsewhere and until you set up a proper criminal penal system. We have been hearing about community service orders for the last 3 years and they have not come in yet. It is time they come to deal with some of those same people who have, as I say, more a medical addiction than a criminal predilection. It is time to deal with it.

So that while I welcome the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Bill I say that there are things I would love far more to see before us today, things like a Theft Bill, a Bail Bill, an Offences Against the Person Bill, a Criminal Evidence Bill, a Resolution approving for the establishment of a National Task Force on Crime, a Resolution approving the establishment of a Crime Research Unit, a Resolution approving the establishment

and urgent reporting of a Committee for Reform on the Criminal Justice System which is operating on a system with rules from 40 years ago for crime that has increased 20, 30, 40 fold, more than the rate of inflation, if that is possible. We have to deal with it, Sir, page one. I hope that this Government will accord it the same priority as page one. The only place I do not want to see it on page one is in the newspapers.

I am going to tell you now that this is where – it is not often I agree with him – I agree with the Prime Minister this time. The press in this country must understand that, while there is a duty to communicate information, and I am one of the strongest defenders of the freedom of information anywhere, while there is that duty to communicate information – I hope, Sir, that they report it and not report the rest of my speech and leave out this part; I am issuing that challenge to them now – I am saying that it is time that they re-examine themselves and understand that they have as much a role to play in this country as those of us who are trying to stop criminals from ruining it and creating havoc. You cannot continue to put crime on page one, the back page and page 3 every day and expect it not to have an effect. How can CBC send a camera on a beach to ask tourists what they feel about crime? Are we going mad? You come to me as a tourist and ask me what I feel about crime in your country. I gone. Where is the head? It does not help the situation. That is why I made reference to the point of Bush Hall earlier, that if you find 30 or 40 people in Bush Hall who are criminals out of 4 000 you find a lot. I make that point to show that the problem, to some extent, is being blown out of proportion. Yes, we have a serious problem. But the press who have a duty to dictate what we debate in this country has ensured that that has been the singular debate in this country for the last 2 months. They must be more responsible than that. Nobody is trying to censure them. You can report the same activity but in a different manner. It is that sensitivity that is required in the reporting of criminal activity. I believe enough people have spoken on it.

There are matters I would like to speak on about the development of the press which I would not do today because of the limits of this Bill, but when I get the opportunity I want to deal with it, because it is too important an instrument in this country for us to allow to have free and total rein when the rest of us have to suffer. Continue to report but watch the manner in which you are doing it!

I welcome the passing of this Bill. There are people who have skipped bail even in the last few months that I can think of and who the Barbados Government would therefore need to trace in some of these countries, so I welcome this. But I make the more urgent call, Sir, and I hope that Senator Inniss would back me up, being a practitioner in the criminal courts, that we need urgent

reform now. Now is the time. You cannot continue to deal with a festering sore knee with a band-aid. That is how we have approached criminal justice in this country.

Thank you very much, Sir,

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Senator Inniss.

SENATOR W. LeROY INNIS: Mr. Deputy President, I rise...

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: If you would defer to Senator Lewis.

Aside.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Proceed Senator Inniss.

SENATOR W. LeROY INNIS: ...not in answer to the prayer of the Senator who spoke immediately before me to back her up. But whilst saying that, I must say that there is much food for thought in what Senator Mottley has just said. It is one of the things that must be said. There are times when I cannot agree with the things the Senator says. But I think she has spoken in measured tones today. She has not tried to say that the crime in this country is the fault of any Government and that Opposition does not have to assist in solving crime *et cetera*. I was pleased with the comments because they were wise comments.

What worries me sometimes is that one gets the impression that very often we come to this Chamber and speak and it is in the back of our minds by the time we are finished speaking that that is the end of it. You hear the words, it goes out in Hansard and that is the end. Nobody tends to care or think about what has been said after we waste hours and hours in this Chamber and the other Chamber for that matter. But I think we have to start taking life much more seriously now, because very often we rush into things.

1.10 p.m.

We let things lie for a long time and then we get up frightened and take hurried measures, sometimes because we have neglected to do what we should have done many years or months before.

I, like Senator Mottley, consider this piece of legislation a very useful bit of legislation but I would hope that we, in Barbados, do not allow ourselves to be pawns in this game, that this type of legislation is passed for Barbadians to send prisoners or fugitives or other kinds of people back to other countries while we get no assistance in getting our own wrongdoers into Barbados.

Ever so often you hear, even today in courts, about fugitives in the United States of America, especially, being brought before our courts to be sent out of Barbados to the

United States. How many Bajans do you know have been brought from elsewhere into Barbados to face justice? People's names have been called in Commissions of Inquiry for wrongdoing or potential wrongdoing or possible wrongdoing. Bajans leave here and go on holiday and see them. Occasionally they come to Barbados on holiday. Nobody arrests them, nobody asks them any questions, nothing of the sort. It is no point our getting around this Table and passing all kinds of legislation if our words and the passing of the legislation eventually are put away in a book and nothing more than a book.

Again, when I look at the point of our criminal justice system, it is amazing how there is no change in our criminal justice system. If one looks at the history of how justice was administered in this country you will see that basically we go through the same motions day after day. We are trying to deal with 1990s problems with 1940s and 1950s methods.

We move sometimes, Mr. Deputy President, from one extreme to the other. When there is a spate of crime you may find one particular presiding officer in the law courts becoming nervous and imprisoning people who ought not to be in prison. I am saying that it is downright disgraceful, it is an abuse of power to send any little boy to Glendairy Prison for calling a policeman a fool. It is a complete abuse of power that we have so many people out here breaking houses, raping and robbing and the Magistrate will get up a morning, a little boy goes down Broad Street and says two bad words – and I am not condoning it, but we all know you pay \$10 for saying bad words – but a Magistrate will remand a man in custody to think about what he is going to do and when he brings him back down a week after fines him \$10. I am saying that is wrong. It is taking advantage of poor people in this country.

Sometimes we talk about a criminal as though a criminal is not man or a criminal is not woman. I think we have to deal with criminals and deal with them harshly, from the point of view of making the penalty suit the crime but, on the other hand, we should not make criminals of our citizens for little foolish minor offences. How many around this table could not have been sent to prison for something if we found ourselves unfortunate enough to pick somebody's guavas? Pick somebody's cherries and you go to prison because the presiding officer that morning felt, wait, this is praedial larceny. A school boy on his way to school picks a guava or a golden apple. I want to send you to prison today, praedial larceny. Sometimes these things only come home to us when important persons and important persons' children get involved.

I know of something, I have certain knowledge of it, of an incident only last week, where there was almost a housebreaking. The person on the inside sat, he and his wife, waiting for the housebreaker to enter, waiting to deal with it themselves when the dogs made noise and the

housebreaker left. When they looked out, they recognised the person, very closely connected to an important person in this society, very, very, closely connected to an important person in this society. It would have been interesting had that person been caught to see him coming through the court yard in shackles the next morning. As a matter of fact the case might go no further.

It is wicked to take someone who has done some little foolishness the night before and shackle him next morning out of laziness. I am saying, if you heard a man was trying to get away from prison, I imagine there would be some justification to say: "Boy, if you could run away faster than anybody else we will have to put a shackle on you". When you are making a policy that all, not prisoners, persons accused of crime, some of whom will be sent home as innocent at the end of the hearing, have the ignominious position of going through our court yard with shackles, it reminds me of the things you see on the television when you look back at the days of slavery.

I make no apologies for criminals, as I said, you have to lock them up when you find them guilty in appropriate circumstances, but never let laziness or lack of manpower tell you that every little boy – they don't do it to the girls, I don't know if that could be discrimination – that every little boy who finds himself brought before the courts a morning must come around with shackles. You should see them, those of you who do not go around the courts, limping across, with chains making noise. Can you imagine how the hearts of the parents, brothers and sisters of those people must grieve. I am not talking about hardened criminals, I am talking about some of the people coming for the first time for an offence for which they have not been found guilty.

An Attorney-at-Law, Mr. Samuel Jackman Husbands, wrote a letter to the press on it only very recently. I think some people are vexed with him for speaking out. He has my admiration for speaking out because we must not wait until these things happen to us and our own before we speak out.

On the question of the system not changing, every year we have Assizes beginning 4 times a year. It has never dawned upon the administrators that 25 years ago and 30 years ago you would have Assizes four times a year and in 2 weeks the Assizes would be finished because they had no more criminals. We can have criminal Assizes going on for the entire year because there are enough cases, unfortunately, to keep the courts going and going and going. Some people are kept in Glendairy on remand, their case traversed, and they have to wait another 4 months. I am saying that is not right. What it means is that you are imprisoning this person and giving him his punishment just in case he is let off by the jury when the time comes around.

We have to look at our system, improve it – and I don't know if a National Task Force is the answer or is not the answer – but what I know is that Barbadians of all political, moral and religious persuasions must get together and work out what we can do to assist in the solution of the criminal activity in this country today. Criminals do not discriminate. It is not your house and not mine. The same lawyer who represents them in town tomorrow morning will get his house broken tonight. So we have to get out and act together. Forget the politics, because it gets me very annoyed, quite frankly, when I hear politicians trying to put politics in everything: "It is the Government who did this. The Prime Minister caused the crime:", all of that nonsense. Let us forget who caused it, because we do not know who caused it. We have not sat back and analysed the reasons for criminal activity in this country. Let us put our heads together, the Senate, the House of Assembly, social workers, school teachers, everybody, and see how we can come together.

Proper detection of crime, first of all proper prevention of crime. Once you have found the criminal guilty, I think they need quick treatment because when a man is put before the newspapers in 1989 for having committed some serious crime and he is never brought before the law courts until 1992 the public that has been so outraged in 1989 wonders what is the point of the police catching a criminal. You wonder what is the point of it, for 3 or 4 years nobody has been brought to justice for a crime which everybody knows has been committed.

Just in passing I would mention, before I sit, Mr. Deputy President, something that always amuses me, every time I read about serious criminals being captured nowadays. The press tells us about ace detective Sergeant Rap Browne, whoever he is. I want to put it on record, I don't know this person except by sight, but it strikes me as strange that a man who is an ace detective – I know the press will make you an expert overnight, but it seems not to be his case because they give you documentary evidence of all the big and serious crime he has solved – I wonder how come he is only ace Detective Sergeant somebody. Something must be wrong with our system if anyone man can be associated with the serious crime and capture any serious criminal and is still Sergeant. Some pretty boys in jacket and tie and talking sweet are all kind of research officers and pretty this and pretty that but at the end of the day a policeman's job is to detect crime and grab criminals.

If it is true of Rap Browne, and I have no brief for him, because I don't know him but I just follow, because I do not listen to the press when they call you an expert because you can become an expert overnight – that they have documented his expertise associated with all the serious crime, I don't know if he has to pass an exam or what it is, but something is wrong that you can get all the serious criminals and you can't get promoted. I would like

those who know to tell us why you can catch the criminals and cannot get promoted and those who have never yet caught criminals or solved any crime get all kinds of promotions. Mr. Deputy President, I thank you.
1.20 p.m.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS: Mr. Deputy President, the contributions are so interesting that one could even go on and on without taking a break for lunch. I am tempted, Sir, to let the debate continue. However, it seems that the time has come for us to suspend the sitting.

I, therefore, move that this sitting be suspended until 2.30 p.m. today.

The question that the sitting be suspended until 2.30 p.m. today was put to the Senate and agreed to, and Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT suspended the sitting accordingly.
1.22 p.m.

ON RESUMPTION

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: This sitting is resumed.

SENATOR J. G. BELLAMY: Mr. Deputy President, the morning session on this measure has proved to be most educational to me, especially listening to 2 members of the legal profession talking on what they are most knowledgeable. I think that the contributions made by Senator Mottley and Senator Inniss are deserving of note and serious consideration. I consider that the debate so far will have to go down in my experience in this Senate as being one of the most interesting I have listened to. I have certainly learned a lot.

At this point in time, while I rise to support the passage of the Bill before us, I bow to the knowledge of the lawyers in respect of its ramifications and the way in which it is implemented. I am not going to comment on that. I simply wanted to rise because, at this time in Barbados, I believe that crime and the handling of it is quite possibly the most important issue facing us. Just last week I had the privilege of attending a seminar that was specifically intended to enlighten those of us who perhaps did not have as much knowledge as we hopefully acquired in respect of the sector of business in Barbados known as the offshore sector or international finance. It was made abundantly clear throughout that seminar and, in fact, I do not recall one speaker at the seminar – and there were several from both the side involved in the offshore business itself as well as some local experts both from the private sector and members from the Central Bank – who did not at some stage during their speech refer to the impact of crime on this sector. The point was also made that, whereas tourism is still our number one foreign exchange earner, the earnings from the offshore financial sector are showing

an increase. It is quite possibly the brightest sector of our economy at present and the potential for its growth seems to be unlimited. I will not go into the detail of the areas of growth because that was well covered and has been covered in the Press. But it appears to me that the potential for growth is very significant.

I mention in passing that it is rising in importance and in its contribution and it is fast approaching, if it has not yet become so the second largest contributor of foreign exchange after tourism. It may very well be that in the future it might even surpass that. But in both cases, tourism and the offshore financial sector, crime can destroy them and, for this reason, I am extremely concerned.

I have heard this morning that our legal framework needs to be reformed. I have heard both Senators who spoke previously speaking from their experiences and referring to the fact that in the 1990's are attempting to deal with crime based on legislation that was founded 50 years ago. This, I think, must require urgent attention. Every day we read in the newspapers or see on television or hear on the radio about crimes. Some of that crime has even impacted directly on members of this Honourable Senate. None of us are excluded. We are all in the possibility of being victims. While I obviously must be concerned for myself and my Honourable colleagues, I am even more concerned about the impact it has on Barbados as a nation and its perception abroad.

We have had, in recent months, some very serious criminal activity involving guns being discharged and people being stabbed. Unfortunately, this is not a good thing when it impacts on anyone but, given our peculiar circumstance and our need to earn foreign exchange, it becomes even more significant when the victims of crime are guests in our country who will go back and report on their adverse experiences.

I also this morning heard calls for punishment to fit the crime. In the overall framework of reform that needs to be addressed. Just a few days ago I read a report of an individual who had gone before the Appeal Court appealing a conviction of 3 months and that individual according to what was reported in the Press had 12 previous convictions. He was disturbed by the fact that he had been incarcerated for 3 months. When I read things like that, it suggests to me that something is inherently wrong.

I support Senator Mottley entirely in her call for the proper and controlled management of our resources for tackling crime including the police, prison, courts, and the judicial system. I have heard some references this morning to the way in which officers actually behave. I must admit not having had the experience myself but I sat and listened with great attentiveness and in absolute horror that we in Barbados could allow such behaviour to take place.

I have already commented on the last occasion that I spoke in this Honourable Chamber about the way in which the Press covers this criminal activity. That has already been covered this morning, so I would not waste Honourable Senators' time by repeating that, except to make the plea that the Press report the facts but do not do it in language to encourage criminals to further criminal activity or encourage others who are not yet involved in criminal activity to become convinced that this is some sort of glamorous occupation they should join in. I know that in reporting the facts it is sometimes necessary to report the facts fully. To that extent, for example, I think it was in today's or yesterday's newspaper I was reading about the amount of money that had been realised through criminal activity. That unfortunately, while reporting facts, can also serve in the minds of some people as an inducement to get involved if you read that the net proceeds of robberies over the weekend was \$5,000. Five thousand dollars may seem a lot of money and encourage people to believe that that is the way to go.

2.40 p.m.

The legislation before us on mutual assistance seems to have the desired effect to bring us into line with other Commonwealth countries, but I am interested to learn that it does not arise from a treaty and therefore we have discretionary power. Senator Inniss supported Senator Mottley, as I understood him, in stating that we would not want Barbados to be on one side of the fence only giving up what we are asked for and not getting anything in return. In that I have to support both of them as well.

I really have nothing further to state on this matter at this point, but I felt constrained, as a result of the way in which the debate has gone, to again express my concern on crime and its impact on our two most important foreign exchange earning industries in this country.

Thank you very much.

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS: Mr. Deputy President, I wish to compliment the Honourable Senators who have taken part in this debate. It has been at a level which is inspiring in terms of the contributions which they have obviously made and can for the future make towards debates of this nature. I would like, in passing, to mention that if Government erred in one respect it may not have been in not sending the matter to a Select Committee, but there was available to us in Cabinet an explanatory memorandum on the Bill which, if circulated to Honourable Members of the Other Place and of this Senate, could have assisted Members in going through the Bill clause by clause to understand it even better. There is a Commonwealth Secretariat document which speaks to the legislation for Commonwealth purposes and should be made available.

The other matter which I wish to mention, before formally moving the Second Reading of the Bill, is that passage of the Bill in Parliament opens the way for Government to ratify the U.N. Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances. I believe this may have been one of the reasons why action on the Bill was prompted; it was in order that Barbados could be seen to ratify that Convention.

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

The question was put to the Senate and agreed to.

On the motion of SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS, Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT left the Chair and the Senate went into Committee on the Bill, SENATOR J. J. PAYNE in the Chair.

Parts I to IV were called and passed.

Part V was called.

SENATOR Miss M. A. MOTTLEY: There is just a small point that needs to be raised in respect of clause 31 subclause (1) which does not make any sense as it reads. It is obviously a typographical error, because the word "in" just before "admissible" should probably be "is". If it is not corrected now it will give some lawyers a loophole as to the authentication of documents and their admissibility. It should read instead: "In any relevant proceedings a document that is duly authenticated is admissible in evidence." The effect therefore is that a submission could be made that it is not admissible in evidence if the "in" remains.

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS: Let me say, Mr. Deputy President, that a number of similar typist's devils found their way and were recognised in the Other Place and I did not read them out, because they were like "sectin" for "section" and "custofy" for "custody", but this one should probably be included and I think we need to take note of it. I am not sure whether it is that the Printery will correct it. It is not a matter of substance.

Subject to that, I beg to move that clauses 30 to 35 stand part as amended.

2.50 p.m.

Clauses 30 to 35 were called and passed.

The Schedule was called and passed.

On the motion of SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Bill as amended in Committee and Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

ADJOURNMENT

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS: Mr. Deputy President, I believe that the Senate may have to meet one week from today, but in the absence of the Order Paper from the Other Place, I am not going to ask that the Senate meet again on March 14, although it is very likely. The timetable of Parliament for the month of March includes dealing with the Estimates in the House of Assembly

during the week beginning March 16, and then Estimates in this Place, hopefully, on March 23 and March 24. I make that information available to Honourable Senators that you may be forewarned.

With those remarks I now move that the sitting be adjourned *sine die*.

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

CONTENTS

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS 579

The Training Report for the years 1985 – 1990.

MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE SENATE AND MOVED BY A MINISTER

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS 579

Suspension of Standing Order 45(2) for the remainder of the Sitting.

Appointment of Senator J. J. Payne as Deputy President for the remainder of the Sitting.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

SENATOR THE HON. L. V. H. LEWIS 579

Caribbean Meteorological Organisation (Incorporation) (Amendment) Bill.

Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Bill.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

ORDER NO. 1 – CARIBBEAN METEOROLOGICAL ORGANISATION (INCORPORATION) (AMENDMENT) BILL 580

Senator the Hon. L. V. H. Lewis, 580, 585;
Senator T. E. Barker, 580; Senator Dr. E. A.
Simmons, 581; Senator A. Morrison, 583;
Senator Mrs. V. C. Fraser, 584.

ORDER NO. 2 – RESOLUTION TO APPROVED THE SALE OF LAND AT HILLCREST, BEACHMONT, ST. JOSEPH TO LINDSAY I. WORRELL.....586

Senator the Hon. L. V. H. Lewis, 586.

ORDER NO. 3 – MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS BILL, 1992.....586

Senator the Hon. L. V. H. Lewis, 586, 596;
Senator Miss M. A. Mottley, 587, 596; Senator
W. LeR. Inniss, 593; Senator J. G. Bellamy,
595.

SUSPENSION 595

ADJOURNMENT..... 597

Senator the Hon. L. V. H. Lewis, 597.

SPEAKERS IN THIS ISSUE

BARKER, Senator T. E.
BELLAMY, Senator J. G.
FRASER, Senator Mrs. V. C.
LEWIS, Senator the Hon. L. V. H.
MORRISON, Senator A.
MOTTLEY, Senator Miss M. A.
SIMMONS Senator Dr. E. A.