THE

SENATE DEBATES

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

FIRST SESSION 1994 - 99

SENATE

Wednesday, January 25, 1995.

The Senate met in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings, on Wednesday, January 25, 1995, at 11.20 a.m.

PRESENT

His Honour Senator F. W. GOLLOP, (President)
Senator the Honourable R. R. FARLEY (Minister of Industry, Commerce and Business Development) (Leader of the Senate)
Senator the Hon. G. S. H. MURRAY (Minister of State, Prime Minister's Office)
Senator Miss C. Y. FORDE
Senator T. E. BARKER (Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs)
Senator Miss O. P. SYMMONDS
Senator D. T. GILL
Senator N. A. LYNCH
Senator N. P. WELCH
Senator J. A. WORKMAN
Senator Mrs. P. E. RICKINSON
Senator P. S. BERNSTEIN
Senator C. LeR. TROTMAN
Senator the Venerable Archdeacon J. L. SPRINGER, G.C.M.
Senator Mrs. V. J. DAVIS
Senator Mrs. A. P. THOMPSON
Senator C. A. MASCOLL

Prayers were led by Rev. Errington Massiah.

Mr. PRESIDENT: The Senate is in session.

MESSAGES FROM HER EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Mr. PRESIDENT: I have received the following communication from Her Excellency the Governor-General which reads as follows:

"Her Excellency the Governor-General
To
The Honourable the Senate

"Her Excellency the Governor-General has the honour to inform the Honourable the Senate that she will be absent from the country during the period January 18 to 23, 1995 on a private visit to Germany.

Her Excellency further has the honour to inform the Honourable the Senate that in accordance with the provisions of Sections 29 (1) (C) and 30 of the Constitution Her Excellency acting on the advice of the Prime Minister has appointed His Honour Senator Fred Gollop, President of the Senate to be Governor-General's Deputy during the period January 18-23, 1995."

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

SENATOR THE HON. R. R. FARLEY: Mr. President, I am commanded to lay the following documents before this Honourable Senate:

Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 1993-94.

The International Business Companies Iroquois Capital Limited (Rate of Tax) Order, 1994.

The Annual Report of the National Insurance Board for the year 1993.

The Airport Service Charge (Exemption) Order, 1994.

The Annual Reports of the National Cultural Foundation for the years 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990 and 1991.

The Second Report of the Electoral and Boundaries Commission and:

The Draft Electoral and Boundaries Commission (Review of Boundaries) Order, 1995.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

SENATOR THE HON. R. R. FARLEY: Mr. President, I beg to give notice of the following Resolutions and one Bill:

A Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Well Gap, Cave Hill, St. Michael for road improvement.

A Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Airlie Tenantry Road, Cave Hill, St. Michael for road improvement.

A Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Breedy's Land, Christ Church for road improvement.

The Juries (Amendment) Bill, 1995.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE EXCHANGE BY NORMA CLARKE-ADAMSON OF A PARCEL OF LAND AT WANSTEAD, CAVE HILL, ST. MICHAEL AND ST. JAMES

SENATOR THE HON. R. R. FARLEY: Mr. President, the first item under Public Business is to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the exchange by Norma Clarke-Adamson of a parcel of land together with the dwellinghouse thereon at Wanstead, Cave Hill, St. Michael and St. James.

This matter has its genesis in the construction of the then named Industrial Access Highway now called the ABC Highway back in the early 1980s. The Government of Barbados acquired the property owned by Mrs. Norma Clarke-Adamson in 1986 for the public purpose relating to the construction of the Highway.

The property at Lodge Hill consisted of a dwellinghouse and a portion of land. The section of land acquired by the Government was 7000 plus square metres and a portion of the land was left under the residual ownership of Mrs. Norma Clarke-Adamson. In order to accommodate Mrs. Clarke-Adamson in the interim between the acquisition of the property and the settlement of the compensation as well as her relocation, she was accommodated at the house owned by the Government of Barbados at 108 4th Avenue Wanstead Terrace, St. Michael. Compensation was subsequently paid to Mrs. Clarke-Adamson for the property acquired at Lodge Hill and a subsequent request was made by Mrs. Clarke-Adamson for the purchase of the property at Wanstead.

After much discussion and negotiation between the Government and Mrs. Adamson spanning over a period of several years, an agreement was struck whereby the property owned by Mrs. Adamson at Lodge Hill and valued by the Government's Land Valuation Office at $77 000 would be used in part exchange for the property at Wanstead valued at that time at $119 000 also by the Land Valuation Department.

Sir, you would recognize of course there was a difference in valuation there. It was however considered that Mrs. Clarke-Adamson who in the more rural setting at Lodge Hill was able to rear some animals along with some poultry was no longer able to continue this activity which constituted the single source of her income at 108 4th Avenue, Wanstead.

In consideration of that, the Government was willing to consider the exchange. But then the period for which Mrs. Clarke-Adamson was able to live rent free was some initial 9 months or so which was considered the reasonable period within which a relocation could be done. However, the period extended beyond that and on agreeing on a purchase price or agreement on the swap the amount which would have been payable as rent for the property at Wanstead Terrace, St. Michael was factored into the Agreement. That amount was approximately $18 000. The Government also agreed to waive half of the difference between the valuation of the property at Lodge Hill and the valuation of the property at Wanstead which is some $21 000 leaving a residual amount of $3 100 which is to be paid by Mrs. Clarke-Adamson.

Sir, in summary we are seeking the approval of the Honourable Senate under Section 5 (c) of the Crown Lands Vesting and Disposal Act, Cap. 225 for the following to be done. That is, the exchange of land situated at Lodge Hill, St. Michael of approximately 2.37 acres for a property situated at 108 4th Avenue Wanstead Terrace.
11.30 a.m.

In addition, Sir, the sum of $3 100 will be paid by Mrs. Clarke-Adamson as a final payment and the

Government will meet the associated expenses related to that exchange of property.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

ORDER NO. 2 – TO MOVE THE PASSING OF A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE LEASE TO THE BARBADOS PORT AUTHORITY OF LAND AT THE BRIDGETOWN HARBOUR, ST. MICHAEL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COASTAL CRUISE FACILITY AND FOR FACILITIES OF THE SANDPIT COMMUNITY.

SENATOR THE HON. R. R. FARLEY: Mr. President, the Honourable Senate is being asked to approve the lease of land owned by the Crown to the Barbados Port Authority. This land, Sir, is situated at what is called the Shallow Draft Facility. I would want to make the Honourable Senate be aware of the availability of the map of the property for those Honourable Senators to know the precise location. But by general description, Sir, it is that property which is bounded by the Spring Garden Highway, the President Kennedy Drive and the Central Purchasing Department as well as the area of the sea known as the Shallow Draft. So it is on the left of the Spring Garden Highway as you move from the Holborn Circle towards the Flour Mill.

Sir, that land as you would be aware is currently used by the Barbados Port Authority to provide facilities for coastal cruise operators, mainly for boats like the Jolly Roger, Bajan Queen and the Atlantis Submarines as well as to provide facilities for our fishermen of the Sandpit Community.

You will recall, Sir, that this project was implemented sometime in the late 1980s and it was completed in several phases. As you know, Sir, the actual use of the property has shifted over that period of time to varying types of cruise activity. In the initial phases, it was conceived to be the long and awaited for arena. But then it was recognized that with the increase of coastal cruise activity there was some need for facilities along those lines. In addition, Sir, there was some heavy lobbying on the part of the group which is officially registered as the Sandpit Community for the maintenance of their traditional access to facilities within that particular location. As a result, Sir, the project which is now completed is used primarily for the coastal cruise activities and for those fishermen of the Sandpit Community. You will recall, Sir, that area was also used in the days when we had the Atlantic Rally for cruisers as one of the berthing points for the many boats which arrived at that point.

The conditions of the lease will coincide with the remaining unexpired term of the current lease between the Barbados Port Authority and the Crown for the lands on which the Bridgetown Port is located. The lease will be renewable for a period of 50 years on negotiation and the other major feature is that the Barbados Port Authority, whilst in control of the leased property, would not be able to pass control of such property by one means or another to a third party for a term over 10 years without the prior consent of the Crown. Of course, the rate to be charged on this lease is a minimal of $100.00 per annum.

Sir, I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

SENATOR N. P. WELCH: Mr. President, I rise to support this Resolution. But my concerns are about another portion of land owned by Barbados Land Reclaimers that is going north of that proposed site and on this land is the Flour Mill Complex, Roberts Manufacturing and I think Fish of Barbados have manufacturing concerns there. We, who occupy this portion of land have had considerable problems over the couple of years with Land Reclaimers in relation to security of a sensitive area. We have had situations where people who work in that area cannot venture out at night because of a situation where there are a lot of containers there, where the land has become an illegal dumping ground and a lot of fear and concern have been expressed about the safety of those persons who work in that area. We have had quite a few incidences of people being attacked.

I think that an area as sensitive as that which has access to the Port needs to be secured. It is right now a thoroughfare where anyone can enter and I want to call on the authorities to do something about setting up some form of security in place not just to protect people. It will also deal with the problem of illegal dumping at that particular place. At the present moment, there seems to be a policy, I do not know if it is a legal policy or what, where the site is being used continuously as a dump for scrap metal. We know that in times past there was a scrap metal dump at the back of Foundation School, just below the cemetery in Christ Church and a couple of years ago that dump was closed for whatever reason. It resulted in a situation where a lot of the metal which now goes to Mangrove was creating a lot of problems there. I think there is need to reopen this dump or to find some alternative area to deal with the problem of scrap metal on that plot of land.

There is also a problem of stray dogs and rodents, and in an area where food processing is a big concern, I think that the authorities ought to take it upon themselves because they cannot depend on the Sanitation Service

to do their housekeeping. They need to be urged to do something about debushing the area and doing something about the scrap metal and improving the aesthetic setting of that area of land. It is an area where people who cruise and tourists who come here and move down to the West Coast will see and I think it doesn't do anything for us as Barbadians and for our pride. I am taking this opportunity to call on the authorities to do something about the general clean-up of the area, the debushing and security. Thank you very much, Mr. President.
11.40 a.m.

SENATOR C. A. MASCOLL: I rise to support the Resolution with a few concerns. While I obviously see the need to develop the area for a cruise facility I am concerned that the fishermen from Parris Gap and the surrounding areas will continue to have access to that area, so therefore I would hope that when this consideration of developing the facility, that it would not be to the exclusion of the fishing community from around Westbury Road, Parris Gap area.

While I share the concerns about security of our fellow Senator, I would hope that the security is not such that it does in fact serve to do that and the small people in the area will not have to go through all kinds of contortions in order to have access to that facility which they have been able to use from time immemorial. We know in fact that development though it sometimes can be for the good can proceed to the exclusion of the small man and that certainly cannot be permitted in this particular event.

I would say that I support the Resolution and look forward to its development.

SENATOR C. LeR. TROTMAN: Mr. President, I wish to thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this matter. I would believe that there should be no disagreement on the intent of the Resolution which is before us and I would want very clearly to indicate that I would wish in my personal capacity and also from the point of view of the interests I represent to support the moot.

I would wish, however, to use the occasion to draw this Honourable Chamber's attention to some concerns which we have regarding the area generally and especially regarding the institution in whom the land would be vested and to use the occasion to request the Government to move swiftly to make some clear definitive position not only as they would relate to Barbados but as they would relate generally to the debate which is making the rounds of the Caribbean and indeed, in the Latin Americas regarding ports generally.

The Barbados Port Authority has been able particularly because of the tremendous support which the Barbados Workers' Union has given to the upliftment of the country above and beyond the partisan interest of any sectoral group, has been able to put itself in a position where just two years ago in 1993 it was able to win the vote as being the most efficient port in the Caribbean, a position which I believe it may have been able to come pretty close to retaining in 1994.

Notwithstanding our individual position in this regard as a port and as a management of the Barbados Port Authority, we have to concern ourselves with the fact, particularly with ports doing what we are trying to do in Barbados to extend the horizons of the operations in which we are involved, that there are increasing demands being made in our own country and throughout the Caribbean and within the Latin American region for ports to be privatised.

I think, given the position of both types of Governments we have had in this region that we will need to make it very clear here and elsewhere that the Barbados Government and indeed the peoples of Barbados whatever our interests in expanding the scope of the Barbados Port Authority are not interested in a privatised Bridgetown or Barbados Port.

This comment needs to be made particularly since the major parts of international shipping and international capital want to move as quickly as possible in insisting that there be a greater level of deregulation a greater level of removal of government interests, influence and control and that, therefore, to a very great extent institutions like what we have at the Port would become privatised. Give them their way they may even want as the British Government has sought to do to privatise things like water and postal services.

It is not beyond the realm of possibility for us to make sure that when once we have taken a position here in Barbados it is my view that other neighbouring countries will want, from time to time, to take example from us and would want to be able to use the idea that we have moved in a particular direction to assist them in their own efforts to stave off that demand for privatisation, that demand for deregularisation.

It has come to my attention, for example, Sir, that in some areas close to us there are efforts being made even today to move workers within the port authority regions from being full time regular employees, to remove that regulation to make them casual workers all over again. The occasion of this debate on the vesting of the Port Authority lends us as a Port Authority as an institution is one for us to make the point that our governments have been progressive in this country and that they have to continue insisting that people who work in institutions which are government controlled and publicly owned that

those institutions where there is security of employment, and where that security of employment is to be on a regular basis rather than on a casual basis which would be lending the efforts of those who wish to privatise.

I wish to make the point that this portion of the coast of Barbados is very vital to our economic development. As you will recognise, and all of us recognise, it is that area through which a significant portion of our revenues are recovered. It is very important therefore in my view that the management of this entire area, especially the management which will move towards the cruise aspect of the operations, be sought after with the same diligence that the Government's declared aim for public sector reform would suggest.

We have to recognise the significant importance that attaches to economic development that we would have through cruising and cruise activity and therefore we have at all levels to be sure that not only is there superior management but that the selection is also transparent.

I would wish to go beyond that to make a further point and that relates to the whole question of the ecology and the marine and environmental upliftment of the country as a whole, particularly as it reflects on this area. Senator Welch has made the point, and I think it should very well be taken by the appropriate Minister, that it is an eye sore and has been for some time regarding the dumping of debris, particularly metal.

I want to go beyond this to make the point that on an ongoing basis there is a certain pollution fall-out which affects the country, affects the people who work in the Port and, to my view, also affects those persons from whom we derive significant parts of our revenue – I refer to the tourists who come on cruises. That has to do not only with the burning of stuff via the incinerator, it has as well to do with pollution coming from a business house which is located to the East of the Port itself. I hope my geography is correct, Sir, but I am looking at the cricket pitch and I think I am seeing that moving somewhere towards the East.

Aside.

SENATOR C. LeR. TROTMAN: Along the Princess Alice Highway and I think that should make for ease but if it doesn't I am referring nevertheless to the general area where there is pollution.
11.50 a.m.

I know that there are efforts which have been made by the administration of the Port Authority, and sometime ago by the various Ministries involved, to do something about it; but it is my understanding that it still remains a matter of some concern for those people who work at the Port and who work in areas around the Port. Some of that fall-out does not only have to do – and I hate to be raising matters that have to do with smoke and smoke affecting people, but you will forgive me. No attempt on my part, Sir, to move outside of Bridgetown and go to any higher land.

Aside.

SENATOR C. LeR. TROTMAN: Well, it has always been under good management because the Barbados Workers' Union has assisted in the management of the Port and will continue to do so.

In terms of the pollution there in that area, Sir, I would wish to make the point that efforts are being made but that those efforts will need to be speeded up somewhat, because we need only to have one adverse report that goes out to the public at large and then there could be all kinds of adverse criticisms affecting us. We do not have to do very much in this area to attract adverse criticisms to ourselves.

We read very often that people who come down here see only evil in the good things that we do, sometimes forgetting that the problems which they often blow out of proportion for us are magnified a thousand fold in the countries of their origins but this is as we should expect. As fragile as tourism is, we would have to recognise that we cannot permit, especially in the early morning hours, the difficulties which are now arising from the burning of stuff in the incinerator to be the kinds of difficulties that affect us; that being particularly a problem since it comes about the same time that cruise ship passengers are usually coming off the ships, and therefore, are in contact not only with the fall, perhaps, of ash but more so with the smoke and smell.

The workers themselves will not be able in the short-term to have facility change and improvement. What we need to do, therefore, under the good management of which Senator Murray speaks, is to improve the incinerator facility in such a way that we might be able to reduce that smoke and smell.

Regarding the industrial plant which is nearby, that has just changed hands. I think we have a matter of some difference in that the fall-out is not only a fall-out of drops of smoke suds, smoke dust or whatever it may be, but there are certain chemicals which are associated with the manufacturing of that particular product. There have been complaints from workers in the Port from time about the difficulty which relates to that.

It would be necessary, I think, for the appropriate Minister if he or she has not been made aware before

now of the particular problem, to use the occasion of this particular intervention to take note and to endeavour to do something always within the framework of the good management of which mention has been made.

I would want, finally, Mr. President, to make one other intervention. Within this question of pollution we must not only be thinking ourselves, and this Honourable Chamber must not only be thinking of the incinerator, or of the iron or metal debris that there is, nor even in terms of the chemicals fall-out which there is from the industrial plant that is going; but we have to recognise that with the tremendous improvement which there has been in our cruise ship trade that not only we in Barbados, but we generally in the Caribbean, have a problem which we have to tackle head-on and for which we must get not only a Barbados position, but I would suggest a CARICOM position, and that is the problem that comes from cruise pollution.

Of course we need the cruise ships and nobody wants to deny that this is a very important aspect for the satisfaction of our visitors and for our own development as a people, but one needs to recognise that there is a certain kind of fall-out in terms of oils, garbage and even effluent and that it is necessary therefore for us to be in constant dialogue, not as an individual country but, in my view, as part of a Caribbean approach to the larger companies, or to the international agencies which might have some influence on cruise ship activities, in an effort to ensure that the business houses which are involved in cruise ship activities will realize that they have a responsibility to the peoples, the citizens and the leaders of the countries through which they do their cruises, to assist in that control and recovery exercise which we have to do that we call pollution control.

This is no less important because it is within the development of tourism than the importance which we have to attach to preventing the French and the Japanese from using our waters for the transport of very dangerous chemicals as has been attempted recently for a second time. We have to be willing and ready to realise the dangers that there will be to our children, if not to ourselves, from a carefree approach to the matter of our ecology and our marine environment.

I would think that at the same time we develop facilities such as the ones we now have, that we look to make sure that this gives us another area for revenue for our people. Even at that same time we have to think of the importance which this area has for our development as a people, the importance which our coastal lands have for our development, not only of our fisher folk but the development for all of our peoples. We have to ensure, to the extent that we are able to recover, that we endeavour to put in place those kinds of initiatives which will recover the sea and the land in a less polluted manner and that we should endeavour to get assistance from those people who benefit in the way that they do from the beautiful things we have along that coast.

I am obliged to you, Sir.

SENATOR THE HON. G. S. H. MURRAY: Mr. President, I would like from the outset to take the opportunity to allay some of the fears, and hopefully all, that have been expressed by Senator Trotman. I would like to remind him that in our Manifesto we rejected outright the concept, policy and programme which had afflicted the last Government that privatisation of state enterprises was an undertaking that should be gone into as a matter of national undertaking. As a matter of fact, at page 16 of the Manifesto, if I may quote, Sir, it says:

> "We reject the notion that state enterprises are an unmitigated evil to be got rid of at all costs. In addition we give no support to those who believe that the sale of the family silver is a viable alternative to earning foreign exchange."

In addition:–

> "We believe that state enterprises have a contribution to make to the national well-being, especially in the context of policies which seek to empower the mass of the people by broadening the base of ownership in the economy."

Therefore, I would like to disabuse the mind of the Honourable Senator of any notion, from whatever source, that we might be lured down that path of, as the Manifesto says, selling the family silver for short-term, immediate hard-pressed gain.

As a matter of fact, we go on particularly in dealing with the Bridgetown Harbour to also state on page 38:

> "Modern efficient ports, both sea and air, are essential to both trade and services".

Among the other things we pledged we would do would be to:

> "Re-establish the seaport as a competitive, efficient trans-shipment port in the Caribbean".

This is a sentiment with which I am sure the Honourable Senator will agree and for which he claimed deserving kudos for the Bridgetown Port for having regained some lost glory and lustre in the past.

Having set that to rest, I believe that we are also hoping to see the day when we will not only retain

the Bridgetown Port and other such facilities in their present ownership and probably enhanced, but we will also go further and reclaim some of the lost silver which had been frittered away by others for other reasons less desirable.
12.00 noon.

Mr. President, in addition I wish to speak of some of the fears expressed about the impact of development on the various communities and various sectors in the community. While I appreciate that there are real and pressing concerns and something of which we should always be aware of and cognizant of and try to avoid as much as possible, I should like to assure the Senate that Government has taken the step of reconstituting and reconvening the Planning and Priorities Committee. The Planning and Priorities Committee is traditionally a sub-Committee of Cabinet and has executive authority. It allocates, it monitors, it gives priority and follows through on Government projects that are being undertaken. In this case we are also going to be monitoring the progress of private projects that have a significant impact on the economy and the sociology of the country.

I believe it is fair to say that some concern has been given by both Parties and both Governments as to the traditional rights and access of the Sandpit Community to their traditional location and I have no doubt that with that enlightened, traditional and customary outlook, plus with the monitoring role that can be performed by a reconstituted Planning and Priorities Committee, a Committee which, in that last few years, had become an amorphous group, a large uncontrolled animal which for example would meet and take up of Dover Convention Centre for a meeting, when you have all kinds of sectors who were not immediately involved in the project processes...

Aside.

SENATOR THE HON. G. S. H. MURRAY: This is a tighter, neater group which I said is a Sub-committee of Cabinet and therefore a number of Ministers are on it as a matter of allocation. Those who have projects which are involved are invited, along with other interests, to make representations before the Sub-committee in order to avoid some of the same pitfalls of which the observant and far thinking Senator has great concern.

I should also like to say that where the fishermen *per se* are concerned, our act on behalf of the Sandpit Community is merely an extension of another Manifesto pledge where we are pledged to improve the fishing facilities, the fishing lives, conditions and amenities of fisher-folk around the island. For example, we are pledged to building a modern fishing harbour at Speightstown and a new facility at Weston in St. James. We will also upgrade existing facilities at Consett Bay and Skeetes Bay. Therefore, the longstanding efforts of the Barbados Labour Party to upgrade the lot and the livelihood of fishermen, we were the Party – for those whose historical memory might be a little short – that took them out of sail boats and brought engines and more modern means of fishing to them, made possible through the Barbados Development Bank and other facilities to upgrade them and bring them into a modern era.

There is no need to mention the spanking facilities at Oistins and Bridgetown but...

Aside.

SENATOR THE HON. G. S. H. MURRAY: No. They are both towns. Towns have traditionally played tremendous roles in the life of Barbados. I should just like to assure Senator Trotman particularly and other Senators that we will continue to pay close attention to the lot of the fishermen and also to the Bridgetown Harbour which, I also must go on record as reminding Members that it was an original Barbados Labour Party project whose contribution to Barbados we will never see the end of.

Thank you.

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

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LAND AT BRYAN'S ROAD, WELCHMAN HALL, ST. THOMAS FOR THE PRESERVATION OF ECOLOGICAL AND AESTHETIC VALUE OF HARRISON'S CAVE

SENATOR THE HON. R. R. FARLEY: Mr. President, the Honourable Senate is being asked under Section 5 of the Land Acquisition Act, Cap. 228 to approve the compulsory acquisition of 6870 square feet of land together with the dwellinghouse thereon which form part of the estate of the late Mr. Melvin Dalrymple and is situated at Bryan's Road, Welchman Hall, St.Thomas the purpose of which has been given as the preservation of the ecological and aesthetic value of Harrison's Cave.

This matter should form an object lesson on the need for environmental consciousness. It also provides a perfect study of the problem which we face which is the clash of traditional practices with what is now modern environmental knowledge and practice.

The entire area in close proximity to the Harrison's Cave and Welchman Hall Gully is one which we have

to carefully examine. First of all to understand its impact of above-ground activities on the activities below-ground and to make a decision on what needs to be done to ensure that the national treasure, which is Harrison's Cave and other treasures such as Welchman Hall are not destroyed by what are essentially, as I said in many cases, traditional practices which really have not been engaged in with any intent to cause malicious damage, but which our modern awareness of environmental activity would suggest could result in damage either in the short, medium or long term.

An examination of the area that is Welchman Hall and Harrison's Cave would show that the districts in that area are Alleyne View, Bloomsbury, Bryan's Road, Sturges, Vault Road and Welchman Hall. Some time ago, a careful analysis of the activities in that area was done and the results indicated that there were some 260 households in that general area, Sir. Of that number there were some 205 which had water connections on the premises. What should be of interest in this matter is the method of disposal of the sewerage waste and other waste water on those premises. Of those 260 premises, 142 of them contained water-borne sanitary facilities. Of course the others would have used the dry pit. On those properties with the water-borne connection, there were some 140 suck wells for sewerage disposal. There were some 147 soak-aways which would mainly be used for the disposal of waste water from taps either from the kitchens, the bathroom, the shower or the taps in the yard. That indicates that some 72% of the households that have water connections discharge of their waste water in soak-aways. 12.10 p.m.

Sir, another aspect of the characteristics of that area which as you know, Sir, is in the heart of rural Barbados, indicates that there were some 64 pig pens in the area and these pens housed a total of some 489 pigs. The area in which the Government is acquiring this land – Bryan's Road – was one of the areas of concentration of pigs of 145.

Sir, the reason why the Government is moving to acquire this land is to prevent a problem that has been occurring for sometime where because of the nature of the discharge of the waste primarily from the pig pen, Sir, that waste matter has been able to enter the water stream which flows through the Harrison's Cave and it has resulted in some problem. You will appreciate that the formations which we are privileged to see in the Cave have not been formed yesterday or the day before that, but have taken thousands of years to form and cannot be easily replaced.

Sir, I took the trouble of visiting the location in question and, reading the documentation, my first judgment of what I was reading was that given the subterranean path which the Cave took, that perhaps this was some faraway upstream activity where the waste was entering through its traditional wells and various sucks. But I was surprised to note that the Cave, which I am sure you have visited, Sir, and you are aware that the entrance to the Cave is really within a valley in the earth, that the property in question is perched neatly at the top of the slope leading down towards the Cave. As is traditional, because as I have pointed out, Sir, we are really talking about a clash of traditional practices of what we now know in terms of the way how the environment works. Traditionally, in the country area one has pig pens and you can construct with concrete blocks and you leave some passage in the back so that when you wash the pig pens down the waste can go through the back, follow some drains, and it is either directed towards your banana trees or other crops or it goes into a nearby gully where it neatly disappears. That is the traditional practice that we have all done, at least those of us who have been privileged to have been raised in a rural setting and who have had the privilege of having to raise some pigs and other animals. I hope you had that privilege, Sir. I really am not sure.

Sir, the property in question is perched at the beginning of the slope leading down towards the Cave and the pens naturally are sloped further than the house. The road is at one level and you slope from the road down towards the Cave and the waste leaves the back of the pig pen and makes it way into a watercourse which feeds directly into the Cave. This particular farm at one point had some 100 pigs and 1200 chickens. So you will recognize that we are not talking about an individual who had one or two pigs in their backyard. We are talking about a business operation. It is really the person's business and livelihood that we are talking about.

Sir, in recognition of the need to balance the legitimate business activities and aspirations of our people as well as the need to preserve the ecological and aesthetic value of Harrison's Cave, the Government is not only moving to acquire this property but discussions have been entered into with the affected party at Bryan's Road and an alternative location has been found which is agreeable to the party. The Ministry of Housing is facilitating the movement of that person and the continuation of the business activity with minimal disruption. The location that has been found is one suitable for farming and assistance will be provided in having the individual re-establish on a sure footing to continue their pig and poultry farming business.

As indicated at the start of these remarks, this matter should not be seen in isolation and we should not consider that we have solved the situation because we have taken care of one aspect. We have to look at the wider area as it relates to Harrison's Cave and Welchman Hall Gully. We have to move towards not only making use of the narrow confines relating to the entrance to these

properties, Sir, but we have to consider what wider use could be made of the area above-ground in the surrounding districts both in terms of preserving the environment within those properties as well as making them more attractive and being of more recreational and educational value to our own people here as well as the many visitors for whom those two attractions are a major part of the activities engaged here.

To this end, an examination is being made particularly in respect of Harrison's Cave of the arrangements above-ground in relation to the operation of the Cave, that is the parking of vehicles, the method of access to the Cave, the limited facilities which are at the Cave in terms of restaurants and other shopping facilities as generally improving customer service. Sir, if you visit the Cave on one of their busy days particularly a Wednesday which is our busiest day as far as cruise ships are concerned, you will recognise, to use a good old Bajan term, there is bedlam up there mainly because the entrance is small. If there are two or three large coaches in the area, there is considerable congestion. The wait is often a bit longer than is desirable again because the same point is used for both entry and exit of trams, so you are not able to have a continuous flow of persons in and out of the Cave. This results in some frustration on the part of the visitors, particularly the cruise ship visitors who are technically here for one day. But in all practicality, Sir, if they leave the Port at 9 o'clock the earliest and they want to be back at the Port by 4 or 5 p.m., they really have very limited time in which they really hope to see, feel and taste all that the island has to offer. I am sure you are aware, Sir, that the cruise ships place a high premium on their world of recommendation with respect to what the passengers in their care should do.

Sir, there have been warnings that if the Cave does not get its act together that a number of the cruise lines would delist, that is they would not recommend visitors to go there. Because when we had the problems with the trams not functioning as well as the general problem that I indicated where the present facilities relating to the pre-entry into the Cave, or the activities that you can engage in before you enter the Cave really have not been geared to accommodate the volume of persons that visit currently. We really would not want to have a situation where because of the fact that there will not be customer satisfaction guaranteed that the cruise ships will be inclined delist the Cave. So we are looking at those areas above the Cave, Sir, for those purposes as well as you will recognise that Welchman Hall Gully and Harrison's Cave are already part of the same geographic area and we believe there is more that can be done with respect to how we make use of the lands in those areas to encourage greater use by the Barbadian public and by the long-stay visitors as excellent locations for other general recreation. We are talking about exploring the possibility of establishing mini parks in those areas or a major type of arrangement, which, as I said, would satisfy the two objectives which we need to bear in mind, as protecting these natural inheritances that we are only taking care of temporarily. We have to leave them in good husbandry for those who follow behind us, our children and grandchildren, as well as providing those general public recreation areas where all hardworking folks need to relax themselves from time to time in order to regain their sense of equilibrium.

12.20 p.m.

Even after we look at the wider area beyond the immediate vicinity of the Cave and the Welchman Hall Gully we must use this as an example of what can happen with respect to the wider environment, particularly the water drinking supply which is obtained exclusively at this point in time from underground aquifers. We have to bear in mind that in the same way how it is possible for waste from pig pens to feed into the water stream at Harrison's Cave and for the test of the water to show that they are unusually high levels of foreign matter, that the waters in the Cave form some part of our drinking water system. They are also illustrative of the process by which the water which is deposited on the earth by our rainfall is fed into our drinking water system.We must, Sir, as a matter of urgency as well proceed in a continuous manner, for as long as there is a Barbados, to monitor the above-ground activities in terms of the location of houses, the method of disposal of sewage waste but also, Sir, those other less easily trapped areas, the kinds of chemicals that we import into the island, the kind of use that is made of them including the weedicides and insecticides.

We must recognise, Sir, that an individual in one of these sensitive areas who on his own in a small way makes use of dyazonone or one of these less friendly chemicals – I am sure Senator Gill is impressed with my knowledge of chemicals – in an uninformed manner. As I said, Sir, in many cases, we really don't have too many people in Barbados who mean to cause any harm to the environment but there is a genuine lack of knowledge of the interrelationship between our human activities and our eco-system. We must take it upon ourselves to ensure that there is a level of environmental awareness and consciousness, that there is a level of awareness of the correct use of the various chemicals, that there is a correct understanding of the methods of waste deposal, that we are able to combat what has been the traditional Barbadian out of sight, out of mind attitude with respect to waste that would not allow us albeit through ignorance to have a major environmental catastrophe on our hands.

So, Sir, with those few short words, I would like to move that this Resolution which is seeking the Senate's approval for compulsory acquisition of 6 870 square feet

of land at Bryan's Road, Welchman Hall, St. Thomas do now pass.

SENATOR Miss C. Y. FORDE: Sir, I too would like to add a few comments to those raised by Senator Farley and to say that I am very well aware of the problem which exists in Bryan's Road and indeed I am satisfied at this stage with the manner in which it has been handled. I agree that the small man in any community should be given the opportunity to carry out his trade and to upgrade his living standards. Most of the occupants in that area of course have their small farms with their animals and so on but at the same time all Barbadians must be part of the effort of ensuring that the environment is well maintained and sustained.

Therefore, I want to lend my support to this particular Resolution. Harrison's Cave is one of our major tourist areas and we must ensure that every effort is made to preserve that environment. I trust that the Government will in this particular instance, not only place emphasis on the particular household but also perhaps carry out another survey because there is quite some construction and development going on in that area. I trust that the Town and Country Planning will ensure that those individuals who are going to get into the new businesses and the construction will comply with the rules and regulations so that another problem of this nature will not occur.

I am one of the individuals with other community people who since the 1970's when Harrison's Cave was opened, was of the view that the Cave has a capacity to be further developed. As young people we would frolic in that area and we knew very well of what we called Cole's Cave. Cole's Cave, I would think, if I have my directions clearly set out, would be to the south of Harrison's Cave and all this crystal clear water would be flowing in that area for many years prior to the discovery of Harrison's Cave. I am of the view that we would need to develop that facility further.

For example, Senator Farley made mention of expansion in the area of shopping facilities and I am also aware of the Wednesday morning problem when the cruise liners are in, but we are even looking at having that facility open during the night so that tourists who perhaps are spending a two days or so, if they do not get the opportunity during the day, may be able to visit the Cave. I have had that privilege of seeing the Cave being opened in the night and I thought it was really a spectacle.

Entertainment – probably a band or two, setting up a bandstand. I am sure that that would help to bring in some of the much needed foreign exchange that we need in Barbados. That is an idea for Senator Lynch who is into tourism. I hope that he will be hearing me clearly and he will put some of these ideas to his Board.

I am sure, Sir, that the residents of the area would be willing to accommodate Government in this respect. They know that they will not in any way be cheated and I trust they wouldn't be when the negotiations take place and they have to close off their little businesses or they have to be resited. I am fairly positive because they too know the benefit that can be derived when there is an influx of tourists in the area. They too have their businesses. They can bring their little carts or whatever and they can be a part of the exercise.

I know that St. Thomas generally is a fairly damp area. If that is a term I can use. When you look at Porey Spring and Spring Farm and Springvale and those areas where there are a number of springs flowing. I think these resources need to be tapped and the whole geographical location where you have the Flower Forest to the east of the Cave, Highland Outdoor Tours now being developed by C.O. Williams. We have the Cole's Cave, Harrison's Cave and the Welchman Hall Gully and all of them are in a two to three mile radius. I think that being a total tourist attraction would be of great benefit to Barbadians as well as to tourists in general. I trust that some kind of proper planning will take place where all these places of interest could be looked at in a more global manner so that their development would not only be, as I have said, of benefit to the residents and tourists, but to all Barbadians in general.

12.30 p.m.

Therefore, Sir, with those few comments, I would like to lend my support to this Resolution because I am happy at this time that the matter is being settled in an amicable fashion.

Thank you.

SENATOR THE VENERABLE ARCHDEACON J. L. SPRINGER: Mr. President, I, of course, rise to support the Resolution. I would like to commend Government in moving fairly quickly to resolve this matter. One of the things we are learning about Mangrove is that we must not wait too long before we deal with matters like these relating to the environment. I hope that the problem will soon be resolved not only in terms of the health hazard that it poses.

As the Minister spoke there are really two problems he identified: that of the health aspect of it which will be resolved but there is the other, the environmental or aesthetic side of it as well, both of which are extremely important to all of us and also to our tourist industry.

I think, Sir, that we need to look more closely at the entire social scene and see where we have other similar hazards, not to wait until they, as it were meet our eyes as in this case, but to have some kind of system in place

to make the kinds of checks necessary to ensure that we are keeping in touch with these possible danger areas. I hope that something will soon be done about this because we have been somewhat casual and careless in the way we have treated the environment. I think we need a more aggressive approach to the environment than we have had in the past.

We want to attract tourists. We want them to enjoy the environment. We ourselves want to do the same. We want to encourage our people to go out into the various parts in the country areas and to enjoy the pleasantness of the environment. Therefore we must get involved in the planting of trees. That is something I think we are falling down on, the planting of the appropriate trees about the country for the purpose of shade and also the aesthetic value of these trees.

Then having embarked on a programme of, perhaps I may say reforestation, something that started so many years ago in the Scotland District but then was allowed to die out because no further trees were planted, or the trees were not cared and nurtured, or because of the stray cows across the East Coast area. Whatever the reason, we have not kept it going and I think we need to show that we are serious in a tourist destination to get back to that.

Then, Sir, there must be the security involved. You just cannot plant the trees, as we have seen, and leave them there. You must have persons or some form of inspection by which the instruments of the aesthetics we are talking about will be preserved.

Some time ago in this Honourable Chamber, Sir, I proposed that we should have a core of, for want of a better term, forest rangers who ranged the island, not only to make sure that there was no vandalism but also to provide a presence for those persons and tourists who tend to roam into some of the remote areas in Barbados and who, we had found, were getting into trouble in the very Scotland area where several of them were known to have been attacked. We need to pep up that kind of security which would also keep an eye on the growing things that I feel need to be put in place.

I have seen efforts made, Sir, to plant trees on the new ABC Highway and the Spring Garden Highway. I am amazed this day to find that trees could grow at Spring Garden while Crop-Over raged once a year. That was a miracle that those trees were permitted to grow. It does show that Barbadians do really want to allow their surroundings to be beautified. Then suddenly one day we woke up and nearly half of the palm trees on Spring Garden were destroyed. That underlines the need for some kind of security in this regard and I am beginning to see the same sort of hooliganism taking place on the ABC Highway as well.

Sir, in supporting this Resolution I am saying, that yes, something is being done but we must not stop there. We must accelerate our efforts in the area of beautification and also preservation of the environment. I support the Resolution, Sir.

SENATOR D. T. GILL: Mr. President, I rise to associate myself with the debate. The problem which we have here is that we tend to look at the environment as one little area set aside by itself and all other areas in another area. What we should do is to view it as the environment at the centre, and all other things revolving about it, whether it is the land, the water we drink, or the air we breathe.

I am going to continue, Sir, to hammer this idea until I suppose Senator Farley or, let us say Senator Murray, is able to give us some guidance as to the final outcome. But if we continue to view the environment in different little compartments we are going to be running into trouble ever so often. I was heartened to see that Senator Farley is not only viewing it (and those who are in the decision making positions) as it pertains immediately to the Harrison's Cave area.

Between last week and this week in one or two call-in programmes we heard various callers taking an extreme position, something which is fairly common now in the island to take an ultra left or an ultra right position. We see here some of the callers adopting the usual lock up, hang, execute position in which they were calling for the immediate halt to activities of this nature, i.e. the pig farming. Then we had the other callers who came on and were approaching it from the other regular angle and that is, the poor fellow. What we must do, Sir, is to come to grips with both angles and see that, yes, it is a form of employment and, yes, it is a form of pollution and we must tackle both areas simultaneously and not one now and one at a later date.

I would hope that regular monitoring of the water supply, whether there be the springs which have grown in popularity in recent years, whether it is the one at Three Houses or the many which Senator Forde referred to, that the monitoring of the water supply in those areas be an ongoing activity.
12.40 p.m.

What we must do is to come to grips with both angles and see that yes it is a form of employment and yes, it is a form of pollution. We must tackle both areas simultaneously and not one now and one at a later date. I would hope that regular monitoring of the water supply whether they be the springs which have grown in popularity over the recent years, for example, is the one at Three Houses or the many which Senator Forde referred

to that the monitoring of the water supply in those areas be an ongoing activity. We have seen, quite recently that tests were done at Molyneaux and other areas in the centre of the island which are easy courses for the effluent from Mount Stinkeroo. Not only should we be thinking of monitoring because of the garbage dump but we should be monitoring in terms of people just frequenting the springs as well as rearing animals within the different parishes and close to the water sources.

The other thing which comes to mind is how do we train and how do we educate our small farmers and our small businessmen? Lots of emphasis over the years has been put in areas such as cake icing and dress making. What I think has happened today is everybody is selling the other person a cake or every other person is selling the other person a dress or some leathercraft.

We have moved, quite recently, into the aspects of bookkeeping and marketing for our small businessmen. But I would think that a farmer would be interested in the final stages to know his profits. I do not think that the average young farmer would get great excitement from the day to day checking of books. I think it would be more exciting for him to be trained e.g. in the damage from effluent as we have seen in the case of Harrison's Cave and we have been reliably informed by Senator Farley that this did not come as an immediate or haphazard action but because of the actual topography of the land.

The time has come when our young farmer should be educated in how should he dispose of carcasses. As simple as it may seem, this could lead to great damage with other livestock because of the cross transfer of one disease from one species to another. We have also heard about the herbicides and pesticides being used. If one is not well trained or if one does not have the taste or the ability to follow the guidelines as set out in the instructions of use for the herbicides and pesticides, one could run afoul with their applications and their uses. There are people who spray willy nilly with these herbicides day in and day out and we may not know the damage which could be rendered by these chemicals. There are rates in terms of toxicity. Some are very toxic, some are not so toxic. There are various degrees and levels of toxicity. But if one were to use such chemicals indiscriminately, then the danger or the problems which they would pose with respect to the various food chains may not be seen now but in years down the road, and we would then be faced with a problem of how to turn back the hands of this indiscriminate use.

The same thing goes for fertilizers and product enhancing chemicals. Some people think that if the indications state two teaspoons to a gallon per hectare, that if they use 10 teaspoons or one bucket full that the gain, when it comes to harvesting, would be 10 fold or 100 fold magnified. This is not the case.

The other area in which our young farmers should be educated is in the early detection of diseases. There is no one better place than the farmer himself or herself to detect at an early stage diseases in crops and/or livestock. Only two nights ago we would have seen the Minister making a statement on the caprine arthritic condition which leads to meningitis in the goats. This does not only limit itself there but those of us who have been following the news would have heard of the problem which continues to aggravate parts of Britain with respect to their Bovine Encephalitis and the use of offal, *et cetera* back into some form of food processing.

I am sure that from the Manifesto of the Barbados Labour Party, as outlined on pages 9 and 29, we can tackle these two problems; those of the small businessman, and we must be very careful because in previous years we have been hearing these words "small business". But one must ask, has the small businessman really improved over the years? Has the time moved on so swiftly that rather than going forward relatively speaking he is going backwards?

Over the past 5 years we know the beatings which the small businessman has come in for. At the same time, because of the jettison of a work force and because of the downsizing by the big and powerful companies lots of small businessmen have been created, without training. By training, I am not only speaking in terms of the record keeping, et cetera but to the actual scientific part of the new ventures into which he or she was forced, since primarily it was a case of survival. We know that Barbadians are fairly good at adopting the art of brinkmanship and of surviving.

Therefore, Sir, I am sure that with the coming on stream of the rural development – Senator Mascoll I am sure you have come awake, you have sat up erect – programme is going to be part of the reduction of the unemployment. Part of the...

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Gill, I hate to interrupt you but you are straying.

SENATOR D. T. GILL: Am I straying, Sir? I am going to get back on track. I will show you where, Sir, there is a strong nexus between – Yes, Sir, I have taken your ruling – the technology which is available to the small businessman, be he the small farmer or be he the small shop owner. But, for sure, all these small businesses do play an important part in the employment situation of the country. And so, Sir, I am confident that in tackling this problem which has arisen at Welchman Hall, we are going to be much better equipped hereon in to tackle further problems of its nature.

I am much obliged, Sir.

12.50 p.m.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Rickinson.

SENATOR Mrs. P. E. RICKINSON: Thank you, Mr. President. I rise to support this Resolution, but I would also like to comment on the potential contamination of the environment and congratulate the Government in taking steps to prevent the contamination of our water supply.

I would also like to urge the Government to fill the post of Health Education Officer in the Ministry of Health and to take urgent steps to develop the Health Education Unit. Now this Unit was charged with the responsibility of educating the public on health matters which include contamination of water, water pollution and other aspects of the environment. If this unit is set up, the persons would be able to work with the public health inspectorate whose job it is to go around and educate the persons in the community about the disposal of waste. Also, this unit will be able to work with the Government Information Service and develop educational programmes for the public over the electronic and print media. What is needed also is the face to face education of our public backed with education from the electronic media.

In other words, what I am trying to say is even though I am supporting this Resolution I am also calling for the re-establishment of the Health Education Unit within the Ministry of Health in order to educate the public about health matters. I thank you.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Thompson.

SENATOR Mrs. A. P. THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. President. In rising to support the Resolution, I believe as a Barbadian I should have very great interest in our environment. I feel that Harrison's Cave can be used as a model to teach Barbadians what our water really looks like once it is kept pure. I believe that it is a beautiful opportunity available to the Government to make sure that all Barbadians are taken on a tour of Harrison's Cave. Because in our attempt to discuss the disposal of solid waste and all of these things, we tend somewhat to politicize the matter. We do not recognize the importance of public awareness and education and in this area we are still falling short. We know a lot about a number of things but I think we are still trailing very much in the area of disposal of waste and the maintenance of the environment.

Sir, I would like to suggest to the new Government that we embark on a project. We can start with the children in the schools and then we can reach out to the work-place and I think that we can develop a greater appreciation for the kind of water system we have here and the importance of keeping it in that condition. Whenever I go on a tour of Harrison's Cave with non-Barbadians, they stand in awe at the purity of our water and they wonder if this happens in other parts of the world. So I want to suggest that we use this as a part of our education for the public on the water system in Barbados.

I find, too, that on the approach to the Cave the area is a bit untidy and I think that we need to debush it somewhat. I agree with Father Springer that we could have some trees and other plants planted around that area to make the whole area a place of natural beauty. I do not like the idea of improving on the car park, (I am not anybody who is qualified in science or anything like that). But something says to me that if we try to extend that car park at the level of the Cave, I wonder about the exhausts of those vehicles. If we are going to go on top, I can appreciate that more. But I believe that people should walk to the Cave. I think we should have it in such a way that when you come your vehicle is parked a little distance away and you walk to the Cave and enjoy the natural beauty of the surrounding area at the Cave.

On a recent visit there, a few things concerned me a bit. It is really a beautiful place but I think we ought to look at the day to day management of the Cave. I do not believe that locals are treated as visitors to the Cave. I say this because I took some tourists to the Cave and apparently there is some special rate paid by Barbadians when you go there on weekends. But I was approached in a manner as though I was going to be penalized for being a Barbadian visiting the Cave on the weekend. I did not get the impression that there was a benefit for me when I was asked: "Are you a Barbadian or not?" Then I probed a bit more only to discover, (after I was a bit riled or a little angry), that I would pay a low rate because I am Barbadian. We need to make sure that we understand that all people who visit places of interest in Barbados must be accorded the same treatment.

The other thing that concerned me also is the big television which is there, but there is no longer the visual that gives one the insights into the beauty of the Cave, so that you go on this tour of the Cave even before you enter. When I asked the lady about it, (because I had told my friends that we will be able to see a film before they go there), I was told that there was no tape. I visited there in December and I was told there was no tape available and asked if they did not have a duplicate tape. I think that this is all part of the package and we need to look at these things. We have to look at the quality of the product which we are marketing in addition to the aesthetics and the environment. So I am hoping that this can be passed on to the Minister of Tourism and we can look into that.

I would like to see a souvenir of Harrison's Cave. That is one of the problems that we have in Barbados. You go to Harrison's Cave, Gun Hill, and other places and you can say that you have been there, but there is nothing

you can take back with you and put down and look at over the years. I think the view card is all right but I think that we need now to start to explore how best we can use some of our resources in St. Andrew and I think we can create some employment for the indigenous people around the Harrison's Cave. Of course, we will make sure that they set up tidily because we do not want shacks and that kind of thing. But I think it is something that we need to look at in our employment creation and rural development programme. It is nice, but I want to see it in reality. So I want to remind you that there is something you can do.

Sir, I do not have the eye with which you should discover some things. But I think that with the naked eye you can see a lot of discoloration in the stalagmites and stalactites. I was a bit concerned about that because I had visited the Cave about five months prior to December, it was not so noticeable and I hope that this problem is not too advanced and we can really do something about it.

I, therefore, have no difficulty in supporting this Resolution.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Barker.

SENATOR T. E. BARKER: Thank you, Mr. President. Like the Leader of the Senate, I grew up in a rural community where had it not been for pigs and goats, sheep and so on, I do not know how my father would have managed to educate us. So I am very mindful of the fact that there are lots of people in our community who survive on backyard farming. Obviously, the development of the Harrison's Cave and other such places threaten their very livelihood.
1.00 p.m.

I must say that the Barbados Labour Party Government has shown tremendous human compassion in ensuring that not only is the beauty and quality of the water and the Cave itself be preserved but, of equal importance, the party who was obviously farming there long before the Cave was rediscovered would not suffer unduly as a result of their action.

Sir, this is another example of our being a caring Government. Obviously, it brings to focus the problem that we in the society face: cultural and traditional practices versus the need to preserve the environment and to prevent further degradation. It is a matter of considerable interest that as we develop, traditional practices have to be examined, especially if they impact negatively on the environment.

I am a believer, Sir, in the capacity of the human mind to adapt to new circumstances and to develop strategies for dealing with such. There must be ways where we can bring our collective genius to bear and find methods of farming in sensitive areas. I am thinking of places like the Belle and indeed Bryan's Road. I am thinking of places like the Belle which is very close to the main water area. We need to develop strategies for farming in these areas, especially as it relates to the use of herbicides, pesticides and so on, as was mentioned before.

It is an area of utmost importance because it is not possible to move every house that is in and around the Cave. The cost would be tremendous and the dislocation and human suffering that would result would also be tremendous. Therefore we have to find a method which would allow these people to carry on their traditional activities and at the same time ensure that what is indeed a national treasure be preserved. That is the challenge facing the Ministry of Agriculture, to develop a new way of farming which would satisfy both the needs of the society at large and the people in and around the area.

It can be done, Sir, because there are ways now of using the waste from the pig pens to produce methane gas and other gases that are useful to man. That is something that has to be explored because in my view it could potentially be cheaper to go that way than to resite all the people who could potentially threaten the environment. This is something we have to look at, not only the economics but also the human element, because the people have been living in these communities for as long as they can remember. To ask them to move is not necessarily the best thing, especially if alternatives can be found.

So, Sir, this is the challenge to the Minister of Agriculture and those involved. Not only that, Sir, the people themselves must be receptive to new ideas and new methodologies. Hence the education programme must be such that they are made aware of the fact that their actions, however innocent they might think they may be could in the long run cause serious problems. I am sure, Sir, if they are made aware of that, given the level of intelligence of our people, they would respond to the new methods and ways of doing things in a positive way. We have to use new technology in order for our people to farm in environmentally sensitive areas.

With regards to the Cave itself, I have been there on many occasions and it is a marvel. It is something that we in Barbados should be very proud of and I wonder if we are exploiting it to its fullest. I remember and I am sure that most of us would agree with me that when you go to Britain and see some of the places they call areas of beauty, I am sure the Honourable Senator has been in England – in England and Europe, the admission fee – one wonders why we are only charging $15 for the Cave.

I am sure that a lot of the tourists would not be adverse to put in an extra $5 in order to visit what is

one of the wonders of the world. I am convinced that the entrance fee is a bit too low, bearing in mind that for some locals, especially people who have visitors, it cannot be burdensome. We might find a way of differentiation but the point is that we have to exploit the resources that we have and I don't think that $15 admission fee for tourists is enough given the fact that the cost of managing and equipping the whole facility in terms of the transportation and so on is obviously escalating. Sir, that is something that we can probably have a look at, because as I said, when you see what is charged for an old castle in England and we feel that probably the time is ripe for increasing.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Barker, I have a little difficulty in relating the entrance fee to the acquisition.

SENATOR T. E. BARKER: Except, Sir, that we want to preserve the ecological estate and aesthetic value of the Cave. I am saying that the extra money that we so realise can be used to preserve the beauty of the place and to ensure that those who are living in and around the Cave comply with the new regulations.

Sir, I support this Resolution 100% and wish that the Government be commended for the way in which it handled what is a sensitive matter. Thank you very much.

SENATOR C. A. MASCOLL: Sir, just let me commend Senator Barker for demonstrating a measure of understanding of issues which go beyond the political realm. In fact, I am convinced that his short period of time in Government has done wonders for Senator Barker.

As it relates to the Resolution before hand I do support the Resolution but I also recognise that there is a certain measured caution in understanding of the constraints of financial resources which is now being exhibited by Senator Barker now that he recognises that even in discussion relating to the ecological and aesthetic value of the Cave that one has to be conscious of the financial restraints and resources. So much so that he is proposing an increase in the fee structure.

It goes deeper. In fact, in his earlier comments he did also recognise the need to try to marry the development of the Harrison's Cave area with the development of small people within that area. Again another recognition and a revelation that certainly is commendable of Senator Barker. It is indeed something which I am proud to see coming through in the discussion.
1.10 p.m.

Aside.

SENATOR C. A. MASCOLL: I had, in fact, had a bit of concern that in as much as we are trying to develop areas for tourism such as the Cave, that we do not see the treatment of the tourists as paramount and above treatment for locals. In that regard, even though I recognise that there is a problem in relation to the small farmers around the Cave, I just want us to be ever conscious that we have to consider development strategies that embrace the understanding that we develop not only tourism and look out for the well-being of the tourists, but develop our people and our resources.

I say that because there may be temptation beyond what we are seeking to do here in terms of this Resolution. There may be temptation to move other persons from within the area and if, indeed, we are saying that the Cave is of economic value to us, then I think that there is an even bigger issue. How do we try to develop the surroundings of the Cave in such a way as to ensure that greater opportunities are provided for those who live within the immediate environs of the Cave? I think that is indeed the more challenging issue.

The question of moving the individual because of the difficulties being experienced, I do not think that anyone can query that as a position. I am glad to see that, in fact, throughout the discussion on the resolution we have not sought to politicize it because at one stage I thought that, in fact, we were going in that direction. There was some tendency to move in that direction.

The other issue of the immediate development of the Cave, I take the point of Senator Thompson in fact, that it is possible not to interfere with the existing ambience of the Cave and maybe look to develop some other area above as a car park or some other facility. Rather than go into the entrance now, widen it and provide greater road network and the other things and destroy the ambience, I think we could maybe think of an alternative strategy to relocate the parking facilities somewhere just off the entrance. I think it would lose its appeal if you took the entrance, widen it and then destroy some other area within the area of the car park. I would think that an alternative strategy would be more desirable.

The question of the economic value of the Cave itself has to be looked at just like how we need to look at the whole question of deriving benefit from the cruise ship industry. There is a lot of idle boast about the benefits of the industry to Barbados but I think when we look at the issue in a more detailed way we can see that cruise ship passengers do not spend an awful lot of time in Barbados and in every respect they do not spend an awful lot of money. Thank God for the development of the duty-free enterprise under the last administration that we are beginning to see a greater net yield from those passengers.

As it relates to the Cave, included in that development strategy may be some consideration that we are develop-

ing apparently the Cave with the expressed purpose of providing greater opportunity for tourists without looking at the fact that those same tourists are not going to have an increased time over time to contribute more economic value to us as a people.

We have a situation in which, as was stated earlier, they come into the Port. There are many respects in which the management of the cruise ships actually decide where they would go before they even get to port. I am saying to you that even if you were to increase the cruise ship arrivals you are going to have a problem, if you try to see with me, of providing that service within the limited time space that you have. For argument's sake, if we were to expand the cruise ship arrivals in Barbados, if we were to double that, what I want you to look at is how can you provide at the Cave itself additional opportunities for those additional tourists to benefit from the so-called development which is going to take place.

It is a question of being constrained by your supply, so even if there is a greater demand for the service at the Cave, you may not be able to provide it. We have to be cautious there in terms of thinking that there is an unlimited end to what we can provide at the Cave. We have to see it within its context that it could only supply so much to the cruise tourism and no more so let us not be carried away in terms of going excessively to develop along those lines. So, Senator Murray, think carefully on this.

Aside.

SENATOR C. A. MASCOLL: It has to be determined by study. It has nothing to do with imagination. There is a reality.

Aside.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Order, please.

SENATOR C. A. MASCOLL: Precisely, so you are here talking about being a constraint on the question of supply.

On the issue though of the Resolution, I am very minded, Sir, that I need to stick to the Resolution and even though others have been given a certain degree of freedom, I would not go into that space. I am confining myself.

Just let me say, I had not even intended to speak on this Resolution. I am going to conclude by saying once more that I am very glad to see that there is a certain degree of reality coming to bear on making decisions now that you are not in an opposite frame of mind but you are in a government mode and that you are respecting that even the simplest of decisions to be made have to consider the financial constraint. Are we capable of doing that or are we not capable of doing that? That is my nature.

I end by saying that Senator Barker's recommendation that there may be an adjustment in the fee structure may be independent of any analysis but it may be required, nevertheless. I invite Senator Barker to pursue that line to see if we can get a greater yield from the provision of the good at the Cave.

I thank you.

SENATOR N. A. LYNCH: Mr. President, I rise quickly to commend the Government on the passing of this Resolution. I want to say quickly that most Senators who have already spoken seemed to have based their talk today on the spin-offs of what will happen at the Cave. I am very happy to see that Senator Mascoll rose quickly to speak on the spin-offs that can be gained in the area of tourism and that is the area in which I want to base my arguments today.

I want to say very quickly and very clearly that in an economy like Barbados, an economy in which we have fixed exchange rate, we have no more that we can do at the macro economic level, we need to look deeply at the sectors that are involved in moving Barbados forward. I will hasten to say as well that the past administration, rather than looking at the value that tourism really could contribute to this country spent more time in bringing the Barbados Tourism Authority into disrepute on a daily basis than they could have ever done. I want to say clearly that one Senator in here also sat on that Board of the Barbados Tourism Authority.

Aside.

SENATOR N. A. LYNCH: Senator Mascoll, as we all know.

I want to say clearly that Harrison's Cave is a very important tool. If we are going to look at the diversification of the product that we offer to visitors in Barbados as a matter of education or as a matter of enlightenment we are about to see, I believe, especially on the south coast, a falling out of the bottom of the tourism product as it relates to hoteliers on the south coast of Barbados. They are not at all experiencing a very good winter.

1.20 p.m.

They are not at all experiencing a very good winter. We are talking about people who are running occupancy rates of sometimes less than 30%. But I want to say that at Harrison's Cave, in terms of diversifying the product that we have to offer in Barbados, many people have already

looked at what they can do at Harrison's Cave. Many people have talked about providing music for those who come to Harrison's Cave but it is very important to realize that in those studies what has come out them is that it is very difficult to provide music at Harrison's Cave because of the structure of the Cave itself. It means that we are going to have to start looking at things in and around the Cave, as Senator Forde said, in terms of playing music.

I also want to add quickly that in terms of the tourism product, when we are looking at a Barbados that is divided now on the notion of casino gambling, that it is going to be very, very important that if we do not bring casino gambling to Barbados, we have to look at other means of attracting visitors to Barbados. Harrison's Cave is very important in the make up of the product that we bring. Not only is Harrison's Cave going to be important to us as Barbadians, but if we are going to maintain what we have around us, every other tourism destination around us has the same sea and sun that we offer and serve. If we are going to attract and bring visitors to Barbados, we must always be cognizant of the fact that we must have a diversified product. Where the cruise industry is concerned, I should also like to tell this Honourable Chamber that there is the probability not only of attracting the visitor when he comes in on the cruise ship but also of using cruise ship conversion to allow those visitors to return to Barbados for long visits. The Cave is going to be an important tool in terms of how we market the tourism product in the future.

As other Members have said the Cave is a beauty in itself and it is recognized by all who come to see it in terms of its value to tourism. There must be a study done in terms of how feasible it is to charge one excessive or increased fees in the Cave. There are also a lot of studies to be done to what the visitor actually sees.

I am astounded by the amount of money that we spend in tourism trying to solve the problems rather than trying to seek out or find out, first of all, what the problems are. Any selling concept of putting more sales people in North America or whatever will not solve the problem that we have got unless we find out from the visitors themselves, why is it that Barbados is no longer attractive.

I believe it is very clear that we need to look at tourism not only in the short-term but we need a strategic planning approach as to where we want to take tourism and what component it makes up of our national economy. I would say this, unless we get together and stop all of these other agencies micro managing the Tourism Industry...

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Lynch, I really must protest. I have given a fair amount of latitude. I think you have gone far enough, please stick to the Resolution.

SENATOR N. A. LYNCH: Mr. President, most people spend their time on the immediate spin-offs. I will say that as a tourism product, Harrison's Cave is important to the diversification of that product and it is important that we look at Harrison's Cave not only in terms of this but also for the visitors to the island.

Thank you.

SENATOR Mrs. V. J. DAVIS: Mr. President, I rise to support this Resolution for the acquisition of the land which affects Harrison's Cave. I am just going to make a very short intervention.

What has occurred to me here – and I think it is very frightening – is that we are not only talking about the aesthetics, we are talking about the ecology which is very fragile, we are talking about the health of all Barbadians. Because as our Leader explained to us the effluent and all that from the pig farm contaminated the water supply.

What I really wanted to say is that to me we already have systems and structures in place to take care of situations in terms of our water supply, in terms of town planning where things are built or where they are not, in terms of education and all that. I am wondering why we are spending a lot of time going over and over and talking about these things and why we do not think in terms of the fact that we have the privilege here to project long-term programmes and put long-term plans into place with the Twenty-First Century upon us and begin to think of how we are going to co-ordinate these things, so that we will not have a recurrence of what has happened to Harrison's Cave. I was alarmed because I have always said it is such a beautiful treasure. I am wondering how long has this been affecting Harrison's Cave and who are the authorities and the people who would have known what happened before and why nobody saw this as a question of great urgency.

Are there not technical people who go around assisting farmers? There are systems and there are structures in place. Probably what we are not doing is getting the kind of productivity and getting the kind of monitoring of our systems that would prevent things like these from happening. I think what this whole debate should be about is not only acquiring the land but it is about projecting ways in which things like these will not occur again.

I have the greatest respect for the intelligence of human beings and the fact that people are small farmers, medium sized farmers, or big farmers is quite

irrelevant. The point is as long as people understand what the issues are and there are programmes in place they are going to comply because it is one bit of land that we all live on and that we all have to secure and make sure that it is healthy for us and for our children.

That is all I intend to say. I support this Resolution and I am very happy that the Government has taken this position.

Thank you, Sir.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Murray.

SENATOR G. S. H. MURRAY: Thank you, Mr. President, I should like to say that I have a very strong attachment for Harrison's Cave. While not having my navel string buried in St. Thomas, as might be said, I nevertheless had the privilege of having to explore Harrison's Cave in its very early stage of rediscovery. Therefore, I am very pleased to see where it has come from since those initial days to what it has been transformed in its present state. That kind of close attachment therefore has encouraged me to keep close tabs on developments there, whether negative or positive.

While I appreciate the widespread concerns being expressed about the future of Harrison's Cave and some of the negative things that have been developing there and attempts to correct them, I thought it might be useful if I might be a little more sanguine about its operation, a little more sanguine about its future. It seems to me that while we have a right to be concerned, I think we also have to pay attention and appreciate attempts that are being made to better the situation.

The last occasion I spoke on Harrison's Cave I had talked about the impending arrival of a number of trams to help solve the situation of having to transport people. Apparently two of the trams had broken down and they were in need of two new ones. I am happy to say that the trams have arrived and that they are now being commissioned. The manufacturers from the United States are coming down shortly to make sure that they are in good working order and that the operations would be along the intended lines.

There is hope that as from next month, these two new trams will be in operation and that will go in some small way to help alleviate the problem of shuttling people back and forth at the required rate and in the required numbers, in order to take care of the increased demand that attends the Cave.

In that respect also, there have been some problems in the past as regards the marketing of the Cave and the co-ordination between the Cave and the various cruise ship operators and agents. I understand from information given to me that the National Conservation Commission which oversees Harrison's Cave is on the verge of appointing a Marketing Officer whose job it will be specifically to liaise and work out schedules, *et cetera,* with the cruise ship operators and the agents and also deal with the general public and in general bring about an increase and an enhanced marketing effort on behalf of the Cave.
1.30 p. m.

Furthermore, the Cave currently has a logo shop that sells items that carry the Harrison's Cave logo. I understand that from April there will now be a souvenir shop run by the private sector whose responsibility it will be to produce souvenirs of Harrison's Cave of a very high standard and that therefore should help to bring in some of the foreign exchange which we think that the visitors, while appreciative of the natural wonders of the Cave, would like to leave with us as part of the Harrison's Cave experience.

In addition, as the National Conservation Commission embarks on looking at ways of enhancing the product to make it even more appealing to people who want to see it, whether it be Barbadians or visitors, there has been a meeting of the N.C.C., cruise ship agents and the tour operators and the major duty free operators downtown as well as the Ministry of Trade. They discussed how there can be a collective and collaborative effort on developing Harrison's Cave in such a way as to take advantage of some of the dreams, goals, ideals and standards of some people who think that it can reach in the future. That is an exercise which has begun and I understand that it is going to be intensified over the next few months to put together as many ideas and offers of assistance as to who will play which role, to make it the kind of joint effort that is needed to maximize the benefits that can come from Harrison's Cave.

I support the view of Senator Forde that there needs to be a more integrated effort, not only between Harrison's Cave but all the other natural wonders in the form of Cove's Cave and Welchman Hall Gully. I think we need to take a grander view of not only Harrison's Cave but all the related enterprises nearby and in that way I think that if we were to adopt the grand view of Harrison's Cave and the surrounding attractions and attachments, that we would therefore move beyond being constrained by the question of supply and demand as evidenced by Senator Mascoll. Instead we will be able to allow our imaginations and our dreams to run a little further ahead and come up with some development plans for Harrison's Cave to take it into the realms of a Disney World type and we would not be restricted by mundane, conservative efforts but let the free thinkers and the creative people in our society go to work and do greater things with Harrison's Cave. I think the world is made of dreams and I think that sometimes we

have to be able to escape the bounds of our immediate thinking and let those with more creative juices, flow to their fullest.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator Trotman.

SENATOR C. LeR. TROTMAN: Mr. President, the Resolution before us seeks to get us to make a determination regarding the compulsory acquisition of certain bits of land for the preservation of the ecological and aesthetic value of Harrison's Cave. I know that to a very great extent, with your very gracious permission, we have been able to see an interpretation of that somewhat outside of what lesser minds like mine would be able to recognize as the boundaries, but nonetheless I would think that it has all led to a very interesting debate regarding the future we see for tourism and I would not deny that there is a certain relationship between the aesthetic value of Harrison's Cave and the development of our tourist plant and our tourist revenues.

I would want therefore to support those persons who have spoken in that area for development and I would wish to suggest that perhaps in the management of the materials that we have there may be the possibility of further improvement for revenue collection if we were able to make use of the new carts which we have just been kindly told have now arrived. That equipment has caused us no end of embarrassment and has lost us business. But I am wondering that if at the same time we could not use the very natural provisions within the Cave to establish some kind of lay-by which would permit 15 minute intervals for tours rather than the current half an hour tours. It could be done without there being any bottlenecks being created within the cave itself and it can be done without having any fall-outs of convergence of people to confuse, because all we need to do is to equip the operators with the necessary kind of equipment to tour operators and other operators so that one person would use a 15 minute interval and he/she would wait until the person is passed thereby allowing for a more speedy movement.

It is further very important that in the expression of what Senator Murray has called the "unbridled visioning of our people" that we would be able to see the scope through which we might be able to find the revenues so that it might be possible for further development of the aesthetic values which are inherent within this beautiful piece of heaven in Barbados, and I do not mean that with any disrespect to the gentleman of the cloth at my immediate left.

I think, Sir, that the quality of customer satisfaction is very important because if we do not move quickly to deal with that we may have a problem. So I disagree with the comments of my young friend and colleague, Senator Lynch, who suggested that there is no possibility for music. I wonder why we must believe that music must come out of an electrical piece of equipment when in fact we have what is indigenous to the Caribbean in the guitar box and the steel band pan. I see no reason why we should not create the steel band pan as the kind of music which would fit very well into the aesthetics and into the complete environmental structure for the beauty of Harrison's Cave.

Sir, you do not want the same kind of ghetto blasters that assail the ears of the tourists when they go through the ghettos where they come from or which assail the ears of all persons in larger communities. You want something that fits within the ambiance of the area. In this particular setting in the cup of the beauty of the surroundings of the St. Thomas/Welchman Hall area, I think the steel band is what we need to encourage or we could possibly get people who would learn to play the bamboo and get bamboo bits of music coming from that kind of musical instrument. Let us not spoil the beauty of the place by getting kinds of music that would be too harsh on the ears and would spoil the beauty of the environs that we are beginning to address.

I would wish at the same time, Mr. President, to make one or two other observations and one is this, although we speak to the Cave itself and to the aesthetic value of the Cave, there is running throughout what the Leader of the Senate has said a much more critical issue which we need to zero in on within the Resolution and that is the ecological value of the Cave. I think that we have to take the point that the problems at Welchman Hall and in the environs of the Cave are not peculiar to this particular district, but rather they are symptomatic of a bigger problem that we have within the general community. You don't need to bother, Sir, that I will range too far or that I might get away from St. Thomas. I will stay within St. Thomas and I wouldn't even stop on the mountain, except to say that when we are dealing with issues of this kind of importance it is always important for us to take the high road, not necessarily the mountain path but the high road that is apolitical and not the road that seeks to bring people into political confusion about national issues which have to be attacked from a national community building platform.
1.40 p.m.

We must not allow ourselves, Mr. Chairman... Sir, I speak independent of any views that you may be hearing assailing my own ears.

We have to bear in mind that when we go too far into politicising national issues, sometimes the issue runs outside of the scope of the debaters to confuse and cause difficulties from which we cannot pull ourselves back when the need arises. I need to say no more on that except to

say a word to the wise is usually sufficient and we are all wise and honourable people in this honourable institution.

I am making the point that this particular Welchman Hall problem is symptomatic of the problem in the wider community. We have to be able to recognise that, even though we speak to this case, there are other similar situations around the country which will bring us to the position that Senator Rickinson spoke to earlier, where she says that there must be a greater consciousness, a greater sensitization of the peoples of this country about the need that there is for us to save this community, not for the tourists, but to save this community for our children and their children who are yet unborn.

I do not wish to detain the Honourable Chamber with a development of that particular point of view because I know that you are yourself very much in agreement with that position as the Leader of the Senate would be.

I would wish to express a thought which mirrors the thought which was presented by the Leader of the Senate. It is that, in this beautiful part of the country which I think one of the Members *sotto voce* referred to as part of the wonders of St Thomas, in this very beautiful part of the country, we can make much more use of the environs than we currently do.

I would like to believe that you, like me, Sir, would be one of the moral minority who would not wish to see our future develop along lines outside of the natural facilities of the country and in the sense therefore that we want to develop the country looking towards the aesthetics that there is within the country we have to recognise the number of tourists that are going to other parts outside of Barbados because of the nature walks which there may be, because of the beauty that there is in eco-tourism.

I would believe that if we were to do more for Welchman Hall as an extension of the Harrison's Cave area and if we were to be able to explore those other regions which Senator Forde knows better than the rest of us, but which are themselves being developed in the St. Thomas/St. Joseph area and the St. Andrew area, using the hills that we might be able to develop that part of the country to bring a quality to tourism which would enhance what the Welchman Hall Gully and the Harrison's Cave are now doing for tourism development.

One last comment that would relate to the people who manage Welchman Hall. We cannot do it unless we have people and the institution which manages, the NCC is to be commended for the fact that it has moved to employ additional workers in December, initially in the short term, I would imagine until the new financial year. They are to be commended for the effort they have taken to increase the number of people employed to address the matter of the aesthetic and ecological development of our country.

At the same time, though, I would wish to make the point that there was a previous commitment that, before we would get to the question of those additional whom I do not want to deny their employment we also would have to address the matter of those large numbers who are still on a three-day week. I may remember that when I was in Another Place and I was a politician, – I do remember that the representative for St. Thomas joined the representatives of the trade union movement in making the case for the whole of the Barbadian work force to have the security which comes from being able to plan for a work week of forty hours.

I think it would be very important for the Government to remember its position when it was on the other side and to honour what I believe is now a commitment to the five-day week in this regard and to recognise that the workers at the NCC are now perhaps the only group who are still unto this matter of the three-day week and it is causing tremendous difficulties for a number of them.

I would like to think and I venture to believe that this will be addressed in the upcoming budget and I go on to say that the people who manage the NCC labour as an essential part of the aesthetics of the NCC that those people will be taken care of in a way that would not see a diminution in the quality of the work that is being done to enhance the ecology of our country.

I thought you believed, Sir, that I might have been straying. No. I would never do a thing like that under your very august leadership. I wish therefore to indicate that we and the people I speak for in the labour movement are very pleased that labour is being able to participate in this exercise of improving the ecology. We would want to assist by the level of the quality of our productivity and the level of our efficiency, and to permit ourselves to work towards the development within this country which would bring greater satisfaction not only to the tourists but satisfaction as well to the people who live here and those others who may not be tourists but who visit for longer occasions with us for the general development of the country.

Thank you, Sir.

SENATOR THE HON. R. R. FARLEY: Mr. President, I want to thank the Honourable Senators for their contributions in support of the Resolution and I beg to move that it do now pass.

The question was put and agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT

SENATOR THE HON. R. R. FARLEY: Mr. President, I beg to move that this Honourable Senate do now adjourn until 11 o'clock on February 1, 1995.

The question was put and agreed to and Mr. PRESIDENT adjourned the Senate accordingly.

1.50 p.m.

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