

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
 OFFICIAL REPORT

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE SECOND SESSION (1959—60)
 OF THE FIRST LEGISLATURE OF THE WEST INDIES,
 CONSTITUTED UNDER THE WEST INDIES,
 (FEDERATION) ORDER IN COUNCIL, 1957.

4th Sitting

Tuesday, 24th November, 1959

**HOUSE OF
 REPRESENTATIVES**

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

Prayers

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

**SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION
 (No. 2) BILL, 1959**

The following Bill was presented and read a First time :

Supplementary Appropriation (No. 2) Bill 1959.—[*Minister of Finance*]

Mr. Speaker : Will the hon. Minister name the day for the Second Reading ?

The Minister of Finance (Mr. Bradshaw) : I name Thursday, 26th November, 1959.

**APPROPRIATION BILL, 1960
 (Second Reading)**

Order read for resumption of adjourned Debate [23rd November, 1959] on Question [19th November, 1959] "That the Bill be now read a Second time."

Question again proposed.

Mr. W. B. Williams (St. Catherine, Jamaica) : Mr. Speaker, after the adjournment was taken last night I had an opportunity to read the speech made by the Minister of Finance when he presented the Appropriation Bill.

I have noticed that although the subject of Agriculture and Natural Resources is on neither the Exclusive nor the Concurrent List, provision has been made to employ a Permanent Secretary. It is obvious, therefore, that that Ministry will be a full-dress Ministry like the other Ministries in existence.

For the information of the House I would like to refer to Head XI, Sub-head 1(d) where provision has been made for a Senior Assistant Secretary at \$8,880 and an Administrative Assistant—\$6,802, and other officers for that Ministry. We are asked in these Estimates to provide for a Permanent Secretary at \$10,800.

I would like, at some later time, the Prime Minister to satisfy us in this hon. House as to the justification for creating such a post.

I have listened to the Minister without Portfolio who is also in that Ministry referring to an adviser who was sent to Jamaica. He said that he went there to

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advise on bananas. I would like to see an examination made of the rice industry in Jamaica. I would suggest that we reclaim a considerable amount of land in that Territory for the purpose of improving our rice industry. At present we are experiencing some hardship in my parish where the rice mills are refining the rice, in trying to cope with that produced in British Guiana. I wish the Minister will take note of that and have his expert advise him as to how we can improve the rice industry in that Island.

Mr. Bradshaw: In British Guiana?

Mr. W. B. Williams: In Jamaica. In my Constituency alone there are 6,000 acres.

Mr. Bradshaw: None in Clarendon?

Dr. Duhaney (St. Elizabeth, Jamaica): I will talk about that.

Mr. W. B. Williams: Since we last met here, Mr. Speaker, I recall that there were some farm employees who came from east of the Mississippi to see if this Government could negotiate with the American Government to increase the quota of farm workers to the United States. We haven't heard anything further and there is great anxiety and it would be a great help in our unemployment trouble throughout the West Indies. I sincerely hope that the appropriate Minister will do everything in his power to assist in helping to increase the quota that was provided by these worthy gentlemen who came to the Capital early this year.

I would be very thankful if at some stage in his speech the Minister of Trade and Industry would enlighten us as to the future prospects of our cocoa industry

and our ginger industry. This has dropped considerably in Jamaica and we would like to know what is happening in the world market. We are extremely happy to know that he has had a long concession for the Citrus Industry. We were very much worried and I think that throughout all the Federated Territories that grow citrus, there was a great deal of worry as to the future of our citrus industry.

I see in the Estimates that provision has been made for an additional \$1,229.00 to assist in the Migrant Service. I think that is a justifiable request and I wish to take this opportunity to thank the Jamaica Government for putting at our disposal assistance in the United Kingdom to assist in our migrant troubles. Rather than create posts for Permanent Secretaries in some of these departments here this Government should consider the advisability of providing a permanent post to see that goodwill and harmony exists among our migrants in the U.K.

Hon. Member: Happy Christmas!

Mr. W. B. Williams: I read this morning in the newspaper where the hon. Prime Minister has returned, and may I take this opportunity to welcome him back inasmuch as I have not seen him in his seat. I saw in one section of the paper where he stated that there must be stability in the Federal Government. He has been accusing the newspapers of false statements. I hope that during this Sitting he will clarify all the statements we have seen in the papers throughout the West Indies and tell us just how they came about.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that we will continue to work and to show to the people of the West Indies that within the pre-

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cincts of this hon. House we can and will work together, bearing in mind that we should build a Federation on the motto—"To dwell together in unity".

The Minister of Labour and Social Affairs (Mrs. Allfrey): Mr. Speaker, it is the duty of every Minister to defend his or her Ministry when it is under fire. I listened to the few feeble complaints which the Opposition directed either obliquely or immediately at myself as a Minister. Before I turn to the hon. Member for San Fernando/Naparima's comments—he was the only one I think who criticised reasonably fully the happenings in the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs—may I refer to the complaint made by the hon. Member from Grenada. He was alluding to Canadian domestic help and was complaining that Grenada only had nine places in the quota.

After a great deal of preparatory and diplomatic work on behalf of my Ministry, we received an addition to the already arranged quota of two hundred domestic servants to Canada—fifty extra places. Of those fifty places, nine places—which is nearly one-fifth of the new amount—were allotted to Grenada. There had been 200 places before and they were obtained by the Governments of those Units concerned, through initiating in the old days correspondence and friendly relations with Canada. They had got those quotas for themselves before the Federation came into being, and when we received the fifty extra places we had to share them out, by decision of Council-of-State, as fairly as we could.

2.45 p.m.

Now let me give you the old quota and the new quota. The old quota for Jamaica

was 100 and the new quota after the different assignments of new places is 104; Barbados which had an old quota of 40 has now a new quota of 42; Trinidad, old quota 30, new quota 32; St. Vincent, which already had 15 places (which they had gained for themselves) gets an extra one and now has 16; St. Lucia, one of the earliest protagonists of the scheme, which had 15 gets another one and now has 16. Dominica, St. Kitts, Antigua and Montserrat had no places at all and it was thought fair to divide the extra places as follows: 9 each to Dominica, St. Kitts, Grenada and Antigua and 4 to Montserrat because of the very small size of that Territory.

Now, Sir, we could not penalize those who had not instigated this scheme from the beginning. Besides when you federalize something you do not take away from it but rather you add to it.

Hon. Members (Opposition Benches): Hear, hear!

Mrs. Allfrey: I am glad to see that Members opposite agree with that.

The quota for 1960 has already been kept to the present figure of 250, and I will do my best as Minister of Labour and Social Services to get it raised for 1961 equitable distribution. May I say a word of congratulation to the trainers and trainees of those domestic schemes. In some of the Unit Territories there were no training schemes in operation, and it was really remarkable how the ladies from various welfare departments, such as the Y.W.C.A. and other organizations got together and trained those girls. I had the pleasure of seeing two of the training Departments in two Units and I was very much impressed. This matter may indeed

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seem a small one but it is a very important matter, because it is the key for some of us to the great Dominion of Canada. A girl going to Canada can now bring her relatives to join her. You may be interested to know that certain categories of relations were excluded before, but after my conversation with a gentleman who was delegated by the Minister of Home Affairs in the Canadian Government to talk to me, certain restrictions as to relations were very shortly afterwards removed.

We now turn, Mr. Speaker, to the Member for San Fernando/Naparima, who says he does not know whether we ever obtained associate membership of UNESCO. If the Member will look at Head XIX, sub-head 5 he will see that the membership subscription to UNESCO is listed there. Moreover the fact of our having obtained associate membership of UNESCO was not only broadcast from Trinidad but it was in all the newspapers and it was publicized to the very fullest extent. Copies of my Paris speech was also made available to many Members of Parliament and they are still available to the Member for San Fernando/Naparima if he would care to have a copy. That speech was made on the occasion of the obtaining of associate membership to UNESCO. I do not think, Sir, that you will agree that it was not given a fair amount of publicity. As to the "transfer of membership," the Member must remember that only five Territories of the Federation were concerned before we became an associate member. We could not transfer membership from an almost supranational Caribbean body to a single Federal body. We had to apply for our

own associate membership as independent people, or nearly independent!

The Member for San Fernando/Naparima wants to know, Mr. Speaker, what has been done—what has UNESCO done for us. Well he will hear about it today.

May I observe, Mr. Speaker, that the Member for San Fernando/Naparima was only concerned with national help for Trinidad, but I have to cherish the interests of ten Units, both large and small; many of our islands' needs for education and other technical departments are now listed with UNESCO. Just putting up a list does not guarantee priority. There are various categories of priority in the whole of the United Nations set-up.

Now I will be able to give you the list of some of the things attained through the smaller requests made. When I say "smaller" I mean the non-regional requests. Let me explain first of all, that UNESCO, like other international agencies, draws its grants for the assistance of certain countries from the United Nations. There is a sort of system for the channelling of requests. We are trying very hard to convince all the Units that the best method of applying—in fact the only method now—is to apply through the Federal Government. The Federal Government can now deal directly with UNESCO though generally we have to go through the Colonial Office first, and will have to continue this method until we become full and complete members.

Now, Sir, if you were to look at this list here which I have in my possession, you will realize that for Barbados we have the services of an expert and the use of a mobile micro film unit for a period of about six months for photo-copying manu-

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scripts in the development of libraries in Barbados; for Jamaica and Trinidad, we have the attachments of UNESCO fellowships in the West Indies for varying periods; for Trinidad, two Fellowships in Technical Education to enable Trinidad students to study in Denmark; for the Federation we have the reproduction of works of art of contemporary painters to encourage and assist in the international dissemination of world art (Russian and Japanese) to begin with. A number of film strips on works of art, and on a number of subjects in which UNESCO is interested.

Next we come to Travel Grants Awarded: To Jamaica, a Miss M. V. Robinson to participate in International Union of Socialist Youth Delegation to Africa and to study techniques and methods of promoting educational and cultural activities among youth. A grant to Miss Lena Smith of Jamaica, Secretary, Y.W.C.A. to follow trainee programme, and to attend Conference of the World Y.W.C.A. in Geneva; Miss Hazel Anne Campayne of Jamaica to visit Europe to attend Inter Federal Assembly at the World Congress of Catholic Students sponsored by Pax Romana. The Territories will soon be invited to apply for travel grants for 1960-61.

Now, Sir, may I say that the biggest achievement of all is the grant to the University College of The West Indies Faculty of Engineering of \$700,000 plus a possible \$150,000. If this does not satisfy Members that the great international agency of UNESCO has been treating us at least fairly, I should be very much surprised.

Now, Sir, at this very moment we have under consideration by UNESCO a Course or Seminar of Youth Leaders to help us clear up the violence, apathy and misdirected vitality of our young people. We have just recently received a letter from the Secretary of the Director-General stating that the matter is being considered with sympathy.

Referring to certain other sections in the speech of the hon. Member for San Fernando/Naparima, I have not so far been informed of any dissatisfaction among the Nurses of the University College Hospital.

Mr. Joseph (Naparima-San Fernando, Trinidad): I beg your pardon, Sir, but I never at any stage mentioned the University College.

Mrs. Allfrey: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must have misunderstood the hon. Member.

Mr. Joseph: Another hon. Member made reference to the University College!

Mrs. Allfrey: I beg your pardon, Sir, it was another speaker, but I will deal with that point by saying that I have not been personally informed of any dissatisfaction among the nurses of the University College Hospital of The West Indies, and the first I have heard of it is in this hon. House.

I will now refer, Sir, to the suggestion for a Federal Housing Bill. Mr. Speaker, this Government is not going to embark on any project which it cannot maintain. As a Cabinet Minister during the last war said to the industrialists in Britain (some say it was Mr. Churchill, but I am not positive): he said to the industrialists: "You give us the tools and we will finish the job". We say to the Units: "You give

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us the money and power and we will finish the job.'

Hon. Members (Government Benches): Hear, hear!

Mrs. Allfrey: Meanwhile we give aid by means of advice on housing and other matters wherever we are asked for it, and we are asked very often these days. Just last night the Federal Housing Adviser flew to Jamaica to assist the Jamaican Government in a project.

May I just conclude this subject, Mr. Speaker, by saying that I heard one or two hon. Members across—I nearly said across the gulf, the ravine of

2.58 p.m.: Applause for arrival of Prime Minister.

I am sorry that I should have kept you so long, Sir, but I would like to make one complaint. It has been stated by certain hon. Members, that the Ministers of the Federal Government do not work at all, or that they work very little. I wish to say, Sir, that as far as I am aware, the Ministers of the Federal Government work a 6-day week, and sometimes they work a 7-day week. All sections of my Ministry are under constant pressure. I myself maintain and endure a great amount of pressure.

I will simply conclude, Mr. Speaker, by saying that the matters hon. Members raised were rather small. I expected a greater barrage, which I hope I am not encouraging, as I will not be speaking again in this debate. My Ministry, slimly equipped with funds, has done a very great deal in the last few months. I am not going to make a statement on the work done because that would be in the context of a Ministerial speech. If hon.

Members wish to know more about it there is always the opportunity of posing further questions.

Dr. Radix (Grenada): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the hon. Minister a question?

Mr. Speaker: Which Minister?

Dr. Radix: The Minister who just spoke. I welcome the statement from the Minister of Labour and Social Services, that there will be equitable distribution of the domestic servants for next year. I would like to know from her exactly what she means when she says "equitable". Will it be equitable as it was last year or will it be as it is this year or will it be really equitable in the true sense of the word?

Mrs. Allfrey: I know that the first distribution under Federal auspices was equitable and the next distribution will be equally equitable.

Mr. Bryan (Eastern Counties): As the first Member to rise since the entry of the hon. Prime Minister into the House after his return from abroad, perhaps the House will permit me to offer a word of welcome to him, though I fancy that such a welcome would be offered by all the Members on these Benches irrespective of Party.

Hon Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Bryan: We are glad to know that his health has permitted him to travel back at this time, and we look forward to his participation in the business of this House with his usual vigour and ability.

Mr. Speaker, the opportunity of the Debate on the Budget presents to every Member of this House an occasion which does not always arise in our other deliberations, i.e., in commenting on the Budget and the

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accompanying speech which introduces it, Members enjoy a certain range of expression not limited to any one subject but attuned to the Budget as a whole. It is for that reason, Mr. Speaker, that I wish to take this opportunity to make some generalisations on the whole structure of the Federation as I see it, not so much in criticism, as making use of the opportunity which every Member has of putting forward such views at this time.

I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, that I consider the speech made by the hon. Minister of Finance to be in many ways quite reassuring, and I want to congratulate him for that. The Federal ship of State has been afflicted by such controversies since it started, that we really have to be careful that pessimism does not take over and get us blinded by that frame of mind which can do no good.

It was very distressing to all of us when the inter-governmental Conference dragged on and travelled so painfully during the time it was deliberating. It is very easy, Sir, for people who are groping to find their feet to take alarm at these things, and it sometimes becomes difficult for us to raise our heads over such turmoil and get away from the pessimistic feeling in such way as to allow ourselves to look forward again. I think therefore that every praise is due to the Minister for his reassuring efforts — and I am not so small in my character as to fail to hand out such praise when it is deserved.

Now the Minister's speech was realistic, and I want to say that I intend to build my address around the tone of the Budget Speech rather than going into specific points of it. I say the speech was realistic

in that the hon. Minister of Finance referred to difficulties ahead. We cannot close our eyes to these difficulties, but by careful planning, these difficulties can be overcome, and that is the spirit I like to see coming up at this particular time of stress for the Federation. I think that at this time the road is very hard, but we have got to travel it and not abandon our course. I do not criticise this mark-time Budget, if I may call it so. It is within the demarcating lines that were drawn for the Federation at the time it was designed and there were reasons for drawing the lines as they were drawn. I won't go into that matter at this moment.

One of the great dangers facing the Federation, Mr. Speaker, is the attitude of those who can find nothing of good in it; those who spend their time pointing out mistakes and saying what they could do if only they were here and how much would have been done if they were in the Federation. They are not doing the Federation any good. That is not the attitude to be adopted by an emergent people. We know that there are Governments which, despite their long history and tradition, are today still making mistakes of a kind which astonish us, and it is not fair for contemporaries today to loosely stigmatize the work being done by the Federation as a failure. That sort of criticism is discouraging. We would like to see a vehicle from which carping criticism is left out, especially when we really know that people are trying to do their best, misguidedly or otherwise. If they are really doing their best you have got to give them credit for what they are doing. So to those people who are only able to see disaster, I would say that that attitude is not at all encouraging and as a

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Member of this Parliament, I would be willing to give everything to see that the good of The West Indies as a whole is kept in focus by all the Members of this House.

The question has been invariably asked, Mr. Speaker, what are we getting out of the Federation? I say it is a little too early to make such counts and I am in a happy position today to be able to put forward my own view. If after five years of life in this House we succeeded only in cementing the idea of Federation as a working proposition, then we would have done well. What we have to develop is the spirit of Federation and we must realise that our motto is "To dwell together in unity". Once we are imbued with that spirit, there is nothing in the world to stop the people of the Federation from marching forward as a strong and vigorous people. In five years, the ship can go asunder, if we all think only of what we will get out of Federation. If Jamaica feels annoyed, and Trinidad feels annoyed, and all the other Units follow the same view, then we can see this ship of Federation floundering on the treacherous shoal that still lies ahead at the present time. The spirit of the West Indies as a whole must be to do everything to save the ship and it is up to this Parliament to give that lead. I have heard some people say that the Federation Constitution is bad. A bad constitution is like something in a man who has not got his organs functioning in the normal way. He has got a bad constitution. Constitutions and bits of paper are not enough, it is the spirit that counts. I think that even the United Kingdom as it stands today has not got a written Constitution as such. People have got to give their loyalties and push together in the idea and spirit of Federation. There is always time to change

that bit of paper and to correct whatever deficiencies may exist there. For those who want to go faster, I would suggest that you do not always get to the end of the road simply by pressing the accelerator "all out". It is better sometimes to proceed with caution until you eventually reach your destination. That is one of the big things that this Federation must keep in view. For another thing, you should not be afraid to stop along the road to refuel and to make friends, not only with the people of the islands but with people throughout the world.

3.15 p.m.

The biggest mistake would be to say that this Constitution is so complicated that perhaps the remedy is no Federation at all. That would be a very grave mistake; because even the largest established nations in the world are getting into consortiums, and so on, to make themselves stronger. How can we start now, and as small islands say, "No Federation because there are one or two complications?" That would be a fatal mistake. I would have the temerity here to warn against that attitude. What is more, the abandonment of this journey of Federation which we started so courageously would be entirely against the fundamental West Indian character. In my time — I am looking back, Sir, as I am able to do, to the history of the people of The West Indies with all their trials and tribulations and all that ever faced the people of these islands—I have never seen a passage in our history to suggest that these were formidable enough to deter them; their spirit always bore them up until they overcame their difficulties. Will the trials and tribulations of a budding Federation, which amount to no more than normal growing-

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pains, be enough to frighten us away from it? I doubt if that can be the attitude of anybody who really know the West Indian peoples. I believe, Mr. Speaker, that the peoples of The West Indies, on account of their make-up and background, without saying anything more about that, have in them more than the average human share of versatility and resourcefulness; they have more than the average share of human ingenuity and endurance. They have gone through so many bigger tribulations in the past that I do not see how the trials of today can be any real barrier to the progress we could eventually make, if we are resolved to keep on going.

This is not just "pop" talk. The Federation has only to look about it. In the hon. Prime Minister's own country, little Barbados, for instance, we can all of us remember how in the days of the Great World War, when the United Kingdom was facing the rest of the world and facing a possible extinction of civilisation, Barbados said to England: "Don't delay, go to war, Barbados is behind you." That spirit still exists here, and it is not only the spirit of Barbados, it is the spirit of The West Indies today; instead of going after war to clean up the Kaiser I would say, "Go to the Federation, Barbados is behind it, Jamaica is behind it, Trinidad is behind it, all the West Indian islands are behind it in order to make it succeed."

It is a hard journey, I know, but we will make it; and one thing I would like to venture on and give an opinion about, is that nowhere at all should we allow intrigue, low-type intrigue, and personal ambitions to wreck the show. So many times does it come so very near to that. Our prospects must not be strained by any such

personal considerations. Intrigues and personal ambitions should not be allowed to further a path that is already full of hurdles and difficulties inherent in its own make-up.

I ask the House to be kind enough to bear with me in this matter, because I am framing the tone of my speech to the tone of the Minister's speech. The Minister, in introducing the Budget, could have come with grave pessimism, predicted disaster, tighten up the straight-jacket further and said "Things are getting bad, let us batten down the hatches". I want to emphasise here that I endorse his attitude, the attitude of the Government, that instead of any recession, we must begin to spread our wings, no matter how cautiously, even if only by ploughing back our savings into the development of the country as the Minister has done in the Budget. That was a good point! I am one of those who feel that the Federation is not yet strong enough to have continually to withstand the shakings-up of party controversy simply to decide who shall be in charge of it. I would prefer perhaps, that this side was in charge of it; I would perhaps prefer if it fell into the hands of the two Independents. I am entitled to feel that we would do much better than most of the others. If we got four Independents, as you say, we can take over Australia!

Whilst we must encourage party rivalry in Parliament, I feel that this one is yet too young to lose so much time in petty party rivalry. We can be doing things that really matter, and things that would bring a modicum of achievement to our efforts as a whole.

The Minister rightly said, and I do not apologise for taking all these quotations

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from his speech, because I have studied it; he said "Our goal of nationhood is achieved only upon the basis of consolidated effort." [OFFICIAL REPORT, 19th November, 1959, C.40.] Now that is a profound statement; you can set it down on paper. — Our goal of Nationhood is achievable only on the basis of consolidated effort. I agree, but . . . I would like to ask the Minister, how can this consolidation be encouraged when suggestions which were approved unanimously by this House, are being arbitrarily set aside by the Council of State? Instead of consolidated effort, it seems they ruled out the suggestions of this House just to show who has got the reins and who holds the whip. Are we really making the best of what we have? Do you reject a good suggestion simply because it was proposed from the other side of the House? That is not consolidated effort; that is not making the best of what we have; because if you want to admit this at all, we are not in a position to run a Nation, to run The West Indies as a Nation. It must be agreed at all times, that although the Government in power may consider itself better than those sitting on the opposite side, you must accept the situation that if anything happened tomorrow, the other side could at least do as well. I do not mean to attempt to expand the matter. I believe it is the only respectable policy. Without it we fail.

I know it is a fundamental feeling among people who are just coming along, especially when they think they are doing well, to feel that *nobody* could do it as well. I believe that those of us who find our way in this Parliament by the votes of the electorate, set up as it is today, must be given credit for being able to do something about it whenever the opportunity arises. Ac-

ceptance of this thought will carry us a long way ahead.

I go to another part of the speech where the key is — instead of key, I think it was a hinge, as far as I remember, the hinge of a door — and it was to indicate that the key to our success in The West Indies was economic viability. That was the tone of the speech. I think that also was a good thought. Economic viability is one of the first essentials; political advancement is another, because you can do nothing at all with political prestige when you haven't got economic viability. What would be the use of being allowed to be represented in the Councils of the world when you have no bargaining power either in the sense of human resources or material resources? If you sat in the Councils of the world as you are at the present time, you will only have an opportunity of helping other people to run their business, while your own structure was not viable enough to really matter. To get respect anywhere in the world, a country must have bargaining power, something that it can withdraw or withhold from the rest if necessary, but you cannot suggest that the matter of political prestige alone will do. You would then be helping other people to run their business without even attending to the fundamentals of your own.

I agree entirely that one of the first jobs in this Federation is to do what the R.E.C. was doing so well, and to do it better — co-ordinate, correlate and get the economic structure widened and moving forward.

I am not in favour of political prestige so much as I am in favour of economic viability. When you have that, political prestige will soon come. A nation in the world

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is another nation in the business of the world. You are not respected in the business world unless you have assets. You must build up those assets. We have the potentials and this Federation should be putting these things together and stabilising itself.

For this reason I say that criticism today is not just criticism against the Government. I am just trying to suggest, so far as I can at the present time that the potentials are there and they should be crystallised into something beneficial.

The main job therefore should be the general improvement of the economic situation of the Federation as an entity. And here I would like to paraphrase a bit a phrase that was used in this House before — I may say “a chain is only as strong as its weakest link,” and this economic chain that the Member referred to is as good an illustration as any. As I see it, the West Indian economic chain begins in Jamaica in the north and comes down to Trinidad in the south. Now it is patent that notwithstanding who is in charge of Federation today, at this particular time, the weakest links are in-between. That is the fact of the case. But the whole chain is only as strong as its weakest link. But if we want to strengthen that chain — and this is my point — realising that there are weaknesses in the chain in some of the links—if we want to strengthen that chain we cannot start by weakening the stronger links in order to bolster up the others! You cannot improve the quality of that chain by weakening the stronger links in order to bolster up the others. Rather I think the job is that if we are building a nation we must work to bring the standard of the

lesser up to the value of the greater. That is the job that is before this Federation. If you recognise that there are weak links your job is to work to improve the quality of the weaker units. That is an axiom that I think we can well keep before us.

If we are building a nation we cannot put on the spectacles of the purely village architect; the foundation must be broader and firmer in order to be able to accommodate what we expect would come along in the course of time. I never like to make these assertions about what I think should be a motto without trying to give even some simple, practical illustrations as I see them. What I said was that we should not think about weakening the stronger links in order to put a bit more on to the weaker ones — in the end we would only have the same quality and would have added nothing to the whole. So let us take a fleeting look, if we may, at some of the items that influence or inflame controversies between the units even at the present time. Let us see what are some of the items confronting the Units of the Federation and preventing the Federation from congealing and improving.

Why should anyone, for instance, suspect that Trinidad should want to break up the shirt industry of any other Territory in order to build up the shirt industry of Trinidad? I am only taking this as an illustration. Why should Trinidad set out to weaken another link in order to improve the Trinidad link? I don't think Trinidad is as silly as that! I give another instance. Why should Trinidad want to put a barrier against Jamaica getting an oil industry in order to protect the oil industry of Trinidad? Mr. Speaker, there is no future for the Federation in that. Nobody wants to

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lose business, and nobody should lose his business by coming into the Federation. The whole point is that we must devise and design something that would leave everybody with the business they have at the present time, and perhaps give them more, and the only answer to that is to go after *new business* instead of scrambling after the few bones which have surrounded us for so long. That is the answer! Not for Trinidad to try to take away Jamaica's business or Jamaica to try to take away Trinidad's business. That does not add a single thing to the Federation. There is the test of your ability to be viable. A nation must see whether on its own account it can propel its resources, national and otherwise, to be able to take its place alongside other people who did the same in their time. So we shouldn't stand by and let this come in the way of Federation. There is no future for Federation in that, and as I said, we must go after new business instead of scrambling after the few old bones.

I go further with another illustration — homely as it may be, Mr. Speaker — and I beg an excuse for that. That is my way of doing it in Sangre Grande!

I give a simplified illustration. We are talking about shirts and the scramble for markets for West Indian-made shirts. Let us just project our thoughts a little further. Is it only to the West Indian people that we can sell shirts? Let us take the simple case of the tourist industry. If you bring so many more thousands of people down to these islands every year — for an illustration — you just have to be diligent and industrious enough to produce a West Indian type of shirt with say a steel-band crest on it to entice every tourist to pay ten dollars for one — thus leaving that

much money in your Territory. Then you have additional buyers coming from other places. Where is the fight with Jamaica? We can sell to new people, providing we bring them down through the tourist industry; and that's where the correlation and co-operation comes in. And who is to do it? The caretakers of the Government for the time being.

Mr. Bradshaw: For all time.

Mr. Bryan: For all time wouldn't be good. Even good wine can get so old, it turns sour and you have to throw it away. I don't think, however, that the Prime Minister will agree that wine can ever get so old as to have to be thrown away! So taking that illustration as it is we should have nothing to quarrel about. That is my view.

Let us take *oil* for another instance. And here I am going to make a preface to my remarks which may sound like bragging, but I don't mean it that way. I just want to establish a background to what I am going to say. I would not wish this to go down in the records for posterity as they may not take it in the way that it is meant — I just want to establish that I have some knowledge of the oil industry. As a youngster I worked for years in an oil company in Venezuela and rose very quickly to the position of chief clerk in the production department; and in Trinidad I followed the same career until I changed to politics and was in active secretaryship to managers of various oil companies in Trinidad. For five years in Trinidad I was the correspondent of the *Oil Weekly*, an International Oil Journal, published in America and read by the American oil industry. I had the pleasure and honour of one of my articles being re-printed in French in a Rumanian journal and quoted

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as a very good article. I hope this will establish that at least there is a background for my making a statement on the subject of oil. There is an opportunity in petroleum oil which can really be one of the major factors in salvaging the economy of our Federation . . .

Mr. Bradshaw: 60:50.

Mr. Bryan: The Venezuelans have got to come back to 40:60. I am on the point about whether Jamaica should have a refinery to make the gasoline that Trinidad now sells to Jamaica. If we could just go back and think of the geographical situation of this chain of Islands in the Caribbean Sea — all with good harbour potentialities! My Friend there so well made the point. All with natural potentialities for good harbours if they could find the money and if you put them in the proper places. In about the same geographical area you find two little islands, two little rocks — Curacao and Aruba — where there is not a drop of indigenous oil. Plain rock and cactus. Not a thing else — but Dutchmen and so on. But yet those two islands have buttressed their economics simply because they had the perspicacity — to use an oil phrase — the forward-looking thought to establish refineries in their islands and to go not into the production business but into the refining of oil products. Great Britain has been living for so many years just by packaging goods from the Colonies, putting labels on them and sending them back for sale there. We know that, don't we? It isn't so much their products that they export; they get the spices and so on from the east — that is what they do in Great Britain. They package the things, make them look nice and send them back to sell in our shops. Let's not go into that too

much because I think I can make my point with this illustration.

What Curacao and Aruba are doing — they are refining crude petroleum from lands that are so full of the thing naturally that they really can do enough business on the production end without really spreading their efforts on refining them. Perhaps it is not generally known, but in Trinidad up to, I believe, 1952 — my date may not be exactly correct — but up to 1952 Trinidad struggled along refining only the production that it was able to take of crude oil from the land to put into its refineries. When the Government was approached to give some extra concession to the oil industry to allow them to expand their refinery units it was there that the analogies of Curacao and Aruba were able to come into focus. What is happening today in Trinidad is that there is being refined on this island about one-and-a-half times as much oil as is produced locally and the companies are making a better profit from the oil that is brought in to the island from abroad. Mind you, we also have the facilities of increased employment, sale of materials, equipment and services! It is cheaper to bring a barrel of oil from the East and refine it in Trinidad than it is to refine a barrel of oil that has been taken out of nearby Fyzabad. The point is that there is a lot of trouble getting it out of the ground in Fyzabad whereas in the East — the simplest bore hole provides nearly enough to drown the country.

With the United States of America — one of the biggest users of petroleum for automobiles, for industry and for aviation — in increasing demand, so near to us, they would, I believe, welcome the opportunity to refine in the other islands in the same way as they do in Trinidad. Our

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islands, where indeed the political climate is stable, where the natural climate is good and where production can go on all the year round without the difficulties of winter and so on as obtains in other countries.

But I am going to make this point: We are not going to get on to that simply by showing up here with a new gardenia in the lapel every day. We are not ever going to get it that way

Hon. Member: Take the telephone from the bathroom [*Laughter*].

Mr. Bryan: So there you are. We can take it as one of the potentials of this Federation as a whole — to go into the petroleum refining business — that is packaging petroleum. Just change the thing around; they used to package our cocoa and send it down to us; let us package their crude oil and send it back to them. We have got the sun, we have got the people, we have got the sea, and the harbours. All we need do is to try to establish a political climate that is stable and a Prime Minister that is agreeable to all, a Prime Minister that would make friends and a Cabinet that would respect the view of the Opposition now and then a Prime Minister that would make friends, and a Cabinet that would respect the views of the Opposition Members.

So what about a Federal policy — a Federal policy on the refining of petroleum? Petroleum can be the business of The West Indies and should not be confined to Trinidad and Jamaica. There is room for diligent investigation. It is a big exercise, an exercise for which you would have to engage the best people, people equipped

with the knowledge to deal with these things.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that not too far away from us, there are people in Trinidad who are versed in the oil business and who are now resigning from oil companies. These are people we could use. It is not my work to point them out; in fact it is the specific work of the Minister concerned to find them and recognise them.

Hon. Member: What about you?

Mr. Bryan: I am not resigning from the oil business. I am not in it at all. I was in it once, but that was a long time ago. I wish I was back in it; you see nobody had to vote for me then!

Mr. Speaker, with the illustration I have made, I hope I have simplified to some extent the position. The point I wish to make is that the challenge can only be faced by the Federation. St. Kitts cannot go into it alone; Antigua cannot go into it alone. They would not get very far because they would be groping in the dark; but with The West Indies as a whole taking up this proposition, then I believe we would have something there. That is where the point of the Federation comes in. That is why we came together. We came together because a small Unit alone can get nowhere, and it is plain that our coming together was for the purpose of going forward. We must make our combined strength at once, if we are to take our place alongside the rest of the world and to prosper in the pursuit of happiness, which was really the foundation design of the Federation.

I do not think, Mr. Speaker, that we are going to get the Federation very far simply by thinking up new *taxation arrangements*, because you only have one lot of people to

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tax in the Federation. I do not think that the Federation at this stage is going to get anything at all simply by making new taxation arrangements, so I pose the question: What will extra additional taxes produce from an economy which is already so heavily overburdened in relation to its ability to pay? If you have already established that a man can only pay so much in his present situation, then what are you going to get taxing him out of his ability to pay? How much more tax can you expect to get from a man in Toco, for instance, who has not benefitted by the Federation. It is only when the Federation puts in something that it would have the right to extract something. They would have no right whatsoever to call on him to pay any more tax than he is already paying.

Another question! What would premature — and I underline the word “premature”, because it is the operative word — premature Customs Tariff rearrangements ensure in the way of additional money to the people of The West Indies as a whole if as a result of Customs Union any one Unit should become weaker? This is not disputing the point that there should be a Customs Union, but there should be no intrepid approach to it. There is a way in which it can be done, provided it is not premature. Provide for it gradually coming into being, where everyone can be protected; where you think protection is justified.

It is true, Mr. Speaker, as some Members said, that we started with a paltry purse — \$9,000,000 — but then it was designed that way — and, Mr. Speaker, I like to remember that I sat at that Conference in 1956 in London; I like to remember that I was one of the foundation signatories of the Instrument of Federation, because

whatever criticism you have against that Instrument, I am prepared to take my share of the burden of that criticism. The Prime Minister was one of the leading people; the hon. Norman Manley was also one, and if they erred they erred with good intentions. The Minister of Finance, himself, was one of those signatories.

I do not see that if we had done any different this Federation would have been any more of a success. If for instance we had decided on 14,000,000 dollars to ruu the Federation, and had gone about raising that sum by putting an additional tax on cigarettes of the man in Antigua, what do you think would have been the reaction of that man? Do you think that we could have convinced the man in Antigua to federate if he had to accept the fact that by federating he would have to pay two cents more for his cigarettes? The Federal proposition is already an abstract one for him. He has to pay something, it is true, but he does not have to pay it through his pack of cigarettes. If we started with more money in the “kitty” by taxing the man in Toco, for example, on his cigarettes, I don't think you would have had any Federation at all at this time. Because he would say: If all I am going to get out of Federation is paying two cents more for a pack of cigarettes, or three cents more for rum, Federation is no good for me. So don't blame these fellows. I don't think that the Federation is hamstrung at all on that 9,000,000 dollars. If it is hamstrung on anything, it is hamstrung on the feelings of some Ministers who believe that a big sum of money to spend is all they need! That is why I am so appreciative of the speech made by the Minister of Finance. Nobody in the Federation is called upon to build a road in Tri-

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nidad; nobody in the Federation is called upon to build a water reservoir in Jamaica. Such money is controlled by the Unit and the Unit does such work, not the Government of The West Indies.

We must provide new opportunities to make all those Units stronger, to make their economy more viable. Every time a Unit becomes stronger, the stronger becomes the Federation, because indeed it adds to the economy of the Federation as a whole.

The hon. Minister for Labour and Social Services, the last Minister who spoke, said for instance: if the Units will give the Federation the tools and power the Federation will finish the job. Okay, that is fine. Give the Federation the tools and the power! What I say to that is the Units are not going to be prepared to give any tools or any more power to the Federation until the Federation proves itself capable of managing the new power and the new tools. You have not done that yet!

The hon. Member from St. Catherine says that it is not a question of only convincing the people in this House or the socialists, but it is a question of convincing the everyday man in the street and the Units of the Federation as a whole. You must convince them that the Federation is doing something to bring about some prosperity. When you have done that, I believe that money and power from the various Units would voluntarily be surrendered to the Federation. When that happens all you would have to do is proceed along the road without any talk about additional taxation. This would only come about when you are able to take this Federation along the right road without any suspicion of additional taxation, and then we could say that you are really managing the Federation.

While I have been talking the Minister has gone to sleep. Apparently his question has had the effect on him of a sleeping pill. I had better say something about John John in order to awake him.

I do not agree that the amount of 9,000,000 dollars is a farce. The Federation in my view was never intended to be anything more than a Holding Government, a sort of National Trust, to correlate, to generate and to guide until it has attained economic viability on its own account.

If the Units as they are, are considered to be milking cow to the Federation and the Federation wants to — as the hon. Minister of Communications and Works wish to say, that the Units should give more money to the Federation — keep on milking that cow, then they must realise that the cow can only give so much milk. It is known that any good farmer who wants to get more milk from his cow must give that cow the proper nutrition in order to get additional production. He knows that he can only demand more production by putting something more into that cow. And that is my view; you cannot go on milking a cow that has no more milk.

Hon. Member : Let the calf suck her !

Mr. Bryan: Yes, I suppose you know what some farmers do.

Mr. Speaker, if you will forbid it, I know that some farmers have been accustomed to getting ten bottles of milk per day and they decide they must get fifteen and proceed to milk the cow three times a day instead of twice a day. The result is that the poor cow can give no more than ten and under strain it dies. The good farmer, how-

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ever, knows that if he wants more milk from his cow he must provide more nutrition for his cow and thereby generate the necessary condition so that he could get more milk, and he sets about doing this. So that after being properly treated the cow produces the needed milk.

Why has the Minister of Communications asked the question? Was it in order to go to sleep?

Mr. Speaker, I do not think that trying to get more money from premature additional taxation, premature Customs Tariffs arrangements will put us on the right road. By doing that we are going to create more controversy, a controversy that we would not be able to withstand. We should generate production, create more opportunities, and there I believe that we have something.

Our fight then, Mr. Speaker, as I see it in this context, and I am still agreeing with the general focus of the Minister's opening speech, is that our fight should be to see how much new money we can bring into the Federation from outside. So trying to get money from additional taxes or by tariff arrangements, I do not think we are on the right road. We will only be creating more controversy than is necessary. The remedy lies in increased production and trade with the outside world, and there, I think, we have our opportunity! I find so much money can be brought in from outside. Anyone who has taken a look at the economic history of Great Britain knows that it could not live on its own resources and had to get money from outside. We cannot get money by skinning one Unit to meet the needs of the other. The idea is to bring in new clothing so that everybody can get a better dress, from the money

which is raised by selling our goods to the world instead of over-importing as we are doing at the present. So the answer, Mr. Speaker, I believe, lies in the development of business throughout The West Indies by creating a large West Indian emporium rather than the miserable small shops as has been the case in the past.

What are the opportunities for new business in this West Indian emporium? I have already mentioned oil, as a big field and I think I have said something of the potential there. But what of the agricultural potential? I have always believed in The West Indies that agriculture and industry can be equal pillars of the economy. In Trinidad, up to five years ago, oil was developed and agriculture was allowed to be neglected. Now in the industrialisation that is being introduced to meet the needs of the Federation, side by side with that, there should be the intensive development of agriculture, so that these two pillars can between them sustain the economy of these Territories. If you consider the potentialities of agriculture in the field of food production alone, "there lies fallow abundant material for West Indian initiative and enterprise". These words were used by the Minister of Finance in his speech, and I entirely agree with him. But what we want to get from the Ministry is to let us know what is going on by way of implementing this policy. Not only can we replace the imported articles of food, but we can produce a West Indian equivalent of most of what we import because of our good soil, abundant sunshine and other factors. And not only can we make ourselves nearly self-sufficient in the matter of foodstuffs but we can also build up an export business in it.

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Not only have we got the raw material but we can produce the finished product. If we were to can West Indian Calaloo with a label displaying a steel band and have that placed at Macy's in New York, I am sure that West Indians in New York would be very happy to avail themselves of it. Why can't we do that instead of importing Mulligatawny Soup into The West Indies? I understand in St. Kitts they indulge in it quite a lot, and even here in Port-of-Spain some people call for it in the bathroom. Why can't they call for Calaloo soup instead?

Mr. Speaker, I should like to go on record as endorsing the profundity of the words of the Minister of Finance in regard to food production. Never were words put together so aptly, but words are not all. We want to see the Federal Government getting into the kind of development which can lead to this export business, and put a stop to the importation of many of the items that now find their way into The West Indies as items of food for the people. This agricultural potential was long ago envisaged by the Government of Trinidad, and

Hon. Members : Oropouche Lagoon !!

Mr. Bryan : That was a very good scheme and would have been carried out if the P.N.M. had not suppressed it.

Efforts are being made to put the poultry and eggs industry in a sound position. What my hon. Friend the Minister of Agriculture needs to do is to embark on a programme of co-ordination of the food productivity of the region. What is required in the poultry industry is a plant for processing and packaging, and I believe such a plant is being arranged for by Trinidad. Such plant will take from the farmer

his production on the day that economic live-weight is reached and thus enable him to sell his stock at a profit. Without such a plant the farmer cannot sell his bird at a profitable rate, for when it is ready to be marketed, and such a market is not available, the farmer has to continue feeding the bird beyond the stage where it begins to eat into the profits. That is where the processing and packaging plant would help him to market his bird at an economic rate.

Now, Mr. Speaker, these matters cannot be left to little Barbados to do on its own, or little Trinidad to do it on its own, or Jamaica to do it on its own; that is why we have come into a Federation to correlate from the centre and to sell our crops and products as a whole instead of leaving each man to catch his own rabbit as opportunity offers. If the Trinidad processing plant is built, instead of buying chicken from Denmark, Jamaica will be able to do so from Trinidad. You need marketing facilities. Let me ask the Minister of Agriculture whether he would be kind enough to put a question to his professional staff as to the value of having one or two refrigerated ships travel through the Federation from Jamaica down and back so as to take up what surplus some places may have, and put down in other places the things of which they are in short supply. Because, if this exercise can be gone into, it will provide Trinidad with tomatoes from some of the other Territories and some of those Territories with grapefruit from Trinidad. I have seen these things rotting in some of these Units.

Another thing that can be very usefully dealt with by these refrigerating ships is meat, because there is no earthly reason why we should import frozen meat from

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the Antipodes when it could be obtained in the region.

Let us see whether there is anything in this idea of a refrigerated exchange ship between the islands. I say what the Federation needs today, is not only money but also ideas.

Those ideas should be generated by the Federal Government and brought for discussion in this Parliament. We have a wide and challenging field of opportunity, and I hope that the Federal Government will rise to it more adequately than they have done in the past.

I have one point from the Minister's speech. He said, and I quote :

"Overseas representational services must be built up in countries where they do not at present exist and particularly in the United States of America."

That is another profound thought. I agree, but in the same sense I ask : "If that thought is so acceptable, why should so many Territorial Units even at this moment be seeking to establish Unit offices of their own in various countries of the world; trying to establish their own trade offices everywhere; Jamaica trying to establish its own trade office somewhere; Trinidad Tourist Bureau in the same place. Trinidad Economic Development Board in Germany; and Jamaica with an Economic Development Board working alongside them."

That, I consider, is doing nothing more than cutting the ground from under the feet of the Federation. We have formed a Federation, and it is a question of all for one and one for all. We do not need any more separate Unit or Territorial

offices or representatives in any of these big countries.

In every country there should be a West Indies office divided into so many categories, because if we are to succeed, we must succeed as The West Indies as a whole, and not as individual territories.

I agree with that thought, and I ask, why the emphasis on separate Unit offices at this time ? whether the Federal Government could not really do something to get the Unit Governments to go slow on that sort of thing ? All we will be getting from what is going on now is a Trinidad office competing with a Jamaica office against the prospects of The West Indies as a whole.

I believe the Federation can do a great deal if it stops along this journey towards nationhood to make friends along the road. In this context perhaps, to the hon. Prime Minister— I would like to say here that I do not attach to him any of the blame that was put so heavily on his shoulders while he was away, for making what was called improper and injudicious statements in New York, as I know the people in New York to whom he spoke, and I am not surprised at all that that audience could have deteriorated sufficiently to the point where they lost their sense of humour in such a matter : that was all.

I say this for the benefit of Members on the other side of the House, because, I happen to know the people to whom he was speaking, and came very close to being affected by some of their practices. So I exonerate him.

I really do not feel that in his position as Prime Minister of an emergent nation, he would set out deliberately to besmirch the people of the West Indies. If I thought

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for one minute that we had a Prime Minister who was deliberately going to vilify the people of the Federation, I would be asking Members here to do something about it. I would not stand up today and excuse him. I would see how to bring him to account for it. I do not believe it happened that way at all. As I said, I know those people, and I believe we all ought to exercise caution, because I know what can happen out there in that particular atmosphere when an opportunity arises. It is all propaganda for their own side.

So I think we can stop to make friends on our journey, that we should not try to antagonise people along the road unnecessarily, because we must either get together or fight.

If the Minister of Finance is looking for additional money, I would like to say that the Free Nations are there holding out their hands to help us; those Free Nations as willing to help The West Indies once we are organised to receive that help. These nations are not philanthropists and not money-squanderers; they are not looking to empty out their Treasuries simply to help peoples on the other side of the world. They want to bolster up the economies of sub-standard countries, as they call them, in order to improve the purchasing powers of those countries, so that the people there may be able to trade with them when their purchasing power permits them to do so. All we have to do is to let them help us along the road. I believe that if we did that properly, we can one day come up to them on a common level of respectability and growing equality. I do not think there is any loss of prestige in taking money help from these bigger nations. That is nonsense. If

we look at the associations, the countries, that have prospered under the Colombo plan, there has been no loss arising from taking economic aid from independent nations. There is no argument against receiving that help. The old argument was, that they took so much away from us for so long, why do we not now allow them to give us back something now of what they took away?

Because I am in accord with the tone of the Minister's speech in the sense of not abandoning Federation and Government's policy of holding up our heads and getting together and consolidating for the betterment of The West Indies, I have to congratulate him on his speech. In doing so, I make no apologies for it. If one is always quick to criticise then also he must be ready to praise when the occasion arises or an opportunity is given so to do.

In that sense, however, I would like to suggest to the Federal Government that they should not take congratulations from me on this speech as congratulations from this side of the House. I am in here all by myself. Although I am prepared to say what is right, I think it correct and proper to expect them also to make some very definite and concrete attempt to improve their management of our affairs. It would really be a good thing to see the Federation getting up and getting to it. As I said, the criticisms from this side always do some good. I am sure they will come from every Member here, but I wish to say that I have offered my congratulations in all sincerity.

Mr. Speaker, I hope I have not kept the House too long. I have discharged my duty and expressed the thoughts I had in mind. I believe we have great oppor-

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tunities before us when we reach nationhood, but the Federal Government must wake up a bit and get along with the job instead of answering the telephone from the bathroom as it now does.

Mr. Speaker : The House will suspend its Sittings until five o'clock.

4.30 p.m. : Sitting suspended.

5.15 p.m. : Sitting resumed.

The Minister of Communications and Works (Mr. Rose) : Mr. Speaker, when the hon. Minister of Finance presented the Budget for the current year in this House, he indicated that this Government had decided to give priority to Communications. Members should have seen reflected in that decision the provisions which were made in the Estimates for 1959 as compared with the Estimates which had been made for the year 1958. I am referring to this particularly because one hon. Member saw fit to enquire what was the reason for this increase in the provisions for the Ministry of Communications and Works.

It is a legitimate question, the only thing is that the question which he addressed during this Debate should have been addressed during the Debate of the Budget for this year; for indeed if one examined the provisions made in the Estimates for 1960, the Estimates which we are now considering, the increase can be explained, and it is not as large as the hon. Member attempted to indicate.

I would like, first of all, to congratulate the hon. Minister of Finance who presented the Budget and expressed the policy of this Government in the manner in which he did. I don't think any of us could emulate him. My task at this stage of this Debate is purely to attempt to in-

dicade to the hon. Members some of the activities of the Federal Government, and to try and relate some of the activities to the provisions which have been made in the Budget.

My particular responsibilities cover a wide range of subjects, and while it is true that the hon. Member is, indeed the people of The West Indies are, entitled to ask those in whom they have placed this responsibility to give an answer, I think the hon. Member should refrain from making remarks such as the remark which have been made in the course of this Debate to the effect that they are unaware of what the Federal Government has been doing, because it is true that hon. Members of this House are kept informed regularly by the Information Service of this Government of the activities of the Government. They even get Press releases, they get Press hand-outs and whilst I have heard criticism in some quarters as to the regularity of these releases, nevertheless the fact is that they do receive them, even if they receive them sometimes late. If they would take the trouble, as indeed it is their duty to do, to read the releases and the hand-outs, and to understand them, they could not come here and make these remarks.

Hon. Members will recall that in January of this year, a team of experts from the United Kingdom in the field of telecommunications, came to the Federal Capital at the request of the Federal Government, in order to examine a number of proposals which put up to this Government with a view to improving the systems of telecommunications in the area. That team comprised experts drawn from the Colonial Office, the General Post

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Office and the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation. During the few weeks that they were here, they held discussions with representatives from several firms, including a firm which was responsible for putting up the very first scheme for the development of telecommunications, a firm called Caribbean Communications (South America) Inc. They discussed with representatives of this firm, as well as with representatives of International Aeradio Limited, representatives of Cable and Wireless Ltd., representatives of International Telegraphs and Telephones Inc., one of the big United States telecommunication people.

They were presented with a scheme which had been submitted by a West Indian Company, and after discussing these proposals they prepared a report which has now been submitted to the Federal Government. They call themselves "West Indian Telecommunications Corp." This report has been receiving the active consideration of the Federal Government and indeed one of the authors of this report, one member of this team, Mr. Perryman, has been appointed Telecommunication Adviser to the Federal Government.

There are a number of factors which this Government would have to take into consideration when deciding upon the policy which it must eventually draw up with respect to the development of telecommunications. Possibly paramount in this consideration is the fact that the Commonwealth Telecommunication Board in 1948 took a decision that all members should own their own telecommunication system, that is to say, that all self-governing Dominions of the Commonwealth nationalise their telecommunication systems. That is something this

Government will have to bear in mind when it is deciding on its policy toward development of telecommunications, because this appears to be a pre-requisite to admission to the Commonwealth Telecommunication Board as a Dominion. Suffice it to say that in spite of the fact that we were doing this examination, we were aware of our responsibilities to the West Indian peoples.

We had before us at the same time proposals which had been submitted by the International Aeradio and Cable and Wireless Ltd. We decided that we would permit these common carriers who have been here in this area to proceed, without prejudice to what the Federal Government would finally decide. We decided on this because we felt it was necessary that the telecommunication system should be upgraded and be improved and that nothing should stand in the way of that development. The Companies were informed of our decision, and they have decided to go ahead with development in the mean time. This has been considered by the team of experts who were here, and it is a matter which has played a very prominent part in their report.

The report will shortly be circulated to the Unit Governments for their advice. Indeed, it is becoming quite urgent that this Government should make some decision with respect to telecommunications, if only, because the major public carrier in the area, Cable and Wireless Ltd., has a number of agreements—franchises—with Unit Territories which expire sometime in 1962.

The assurance which I would like to give this House is that Government is not unaware of the urgency of this matter.

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Now that we have got a Telecommunication Adviser we are in a position to expedite our consideration of the matter. We would hope in the near future to be in a position to announce our policy.

Hon. Members will recall that in the field of broadcasting and television, this Government announced the appointment of a team of Canadian experts. That team was headed by Mr. Neil Morrison who is Director of Audience Research with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. He was assisted in this survey by an engineer from the same Corporation. That team has had the opportunity of going to all the Territories and discussing with the various Governments what has been done with respect to broadcasting and television. Indeed, I would like to inform the House that we have had the fullest co-operation from the Unit Governments on this particular matter. We had requested all the Unit Governments to refrain from granting any franchises with respect to television until the Federal Government had an opportunity of studying this matter and coming to a decision. That request has been accepted by Governments, and indeed, I think it is true to say that a few weeks ago the Jamaica Government made a similar announcement in the House of Representatives there.

The team, headed by Mr. Morrison, has now submitted its report. This report, too, is at present under active consideration by the Federal Government, and we are hoping to circulate it to the Unit Territories.

There is one very important fact which emerges, and it is this: It is quite apparent to us in this Government that something must be done in the field of broadcasting; that until the Federal Govern-

ment is in a position to have a Federal broadcasting system whereby it could have programmes aimed at educating the people, bringing the peoples of the West Indies closer together, trying to get a hold over this idea of the Federal concept, that Federation will be possibly a poor second-runner to the present system of unitary governments.

Mr. Hill (Surrey, Jamaica): What about the W.I.F.L.P.?

Mr. Rose: The W.I.F.L.P. is doing a wonderful job especially in Jamaica.

Mr. Bradshaw: We just won an election.

Mr. W. B. Williams: Bogus voting.

Mr. Rose: I am quite certain that the Member for Surrey is well aware of the very good work which the leader of the W.I.F.L.P. is doing in Jamaica. I think, too, that his peculiar record is something which is quite patent—everybody knows that he has always been an advocate of Federation, unlike the leader of the Party to which the hon. Member belongs; and I see that his leader has given us two years to have Jamaica in this Federation. Mr. Speaker, you will pardon me if I continue and proceed to ignore the interruptions.

We in this Government have been paying attention to a number of other matters. For example . . .

Mr. W. B. Williams: Roads?

Mr. Rose: You want roads? We can tell you what we are doing about roads. Whilst the Federal Government has no direct responsibility for the development of roads in the area, nevertheless we real-

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ise that we have a responsibility to the unit Territories to give them such as advice as we can, and to assist them in developing their internal transport systems. In keeping with this particular responsibility, the Federal Government has arranged with the International Road Federation to have a survey carried out in some of the Unit Territories. All the Unit Territories have not been associated with it at their own request, but those which have agreed to be associated with this study include Grenada, St. Lucia, Antigua, St. Kitts, Montserrat, Dominica, St. Vincent and Trinidad.

Mr. Hill : What about Barbados ?

Mr. Rose : Barbados tells us that they have a very good road system.

The Prime Minister : The best in the Caribbean.

Mr. Rose : We have arranged with the International Road Federation to carry out a survey of road development in the area, and we have had the cooperation of the Trinidad Government by their releasing a young Engineer who had a scholarship on the subject of road development, and did extremely well in a United States university. So well did he do that he had been asked to continue on the staff of the university and he is at present doing the preliminary survey under the auspices and supervision of the International Road Federation.

But indeed, this is only one aspect of the work which we are doing in this field. Members who have had an opportunity of studying the development of roads in the Territories, particularly Dominica, would realise that one of the crying needs of the area is for proper equipment. In

co-operation with the International Corporation Administration the Federal Government has had a survey of these needs carried out, a list of the necessary requirements of this equipment has been drawn up by its team of the I.C.A. in co-operation with the Federal Government and at present they are being taken by the I.C.A. to see whether the equipment on this list can be made available to the Unit Territories. This is going to be a boon to the islands, because it is going to facilitate the speedy development of the road systems.

But there is another matter. It is no use getting this equipment out for these people without having proper training in their maintenance and repair, and for this reason, the I.C.A. are proposing to set up a school in Dominica where people, selected from all these Unit Territories, will be sent and to be trained in the operation, maintenance and repair of this equipment.

I don't know if the hon. Member wants to hear anything else in another field.

Mr. W. B. Williams : Nationalise asphalt in the West Indies.

Mr. Rose : The hon. Member for St. Elizabeth said one or two things in praise of the Meteorological Service which is operated by this Government. We are particularly grateful for his kind remarks. I, too, would like to pay my tribute to the members of the staff of that Service for the yeoman service which they are giving under very trying and difficult conditions. Indeed, Sir, one of the problems which has beset this Service almost from the beginning is the fact that it had been, prior to the coming into being of the Federal Government, an orphan so to

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speaking. It was a Federal Service without any sort of Federal Government responsibility for it, and quite naturally, the authorities which had to administer this Service found themselves in the very difficult position of not being able to get any decision promptly, because there was no single authority. They had to ask all the various Governments, and get their replies and so on. Anyhow, one of the boons which has come to this particular service is the fact that for the first time they are now responsible to a Government which has a policy; and during the course of this year, a number of requests were made to me for various commitments, and it occurred to me that it was not possible for a service to be operated in this way. But unless one knew exactly what were the ramifications of the service, what were its requirements, what were the problems which this service had, it would not be possible to organise it properly. Accordingly, I appointed a small working party consisting of the Permanent Secretary in the Prime Minister's Department, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Communications and Works, the Director of Meteorological Services and his Deputy. That working party has studied the requirements of the whole service, with particular reference to its West Indianization; that is to say, getting West Indian personnel recruited to the Service. The report has now been submitted to me and this Government hopes to lay the report as a White Paper on the Table during the course of this Session, so that Members could have a very good idea of the problems which beset this particular Service.

The hon. Member for St. Elizabeth also referred to the question of ports and harbours and he said that he wanted some-

thing to be done about developing deep water harbours. This, too, hon. Members will be pleased to know the Federal Government has given active consideration to. Indeed, we appointed a team of Canadian experts who went through all the Territories and made a survey of port and harbour development in the area. This report has now been handed in to us—in fact, we only got it about three weeks ago and we have not been able to study fully its implications. But, hon. Members would be pleased to learn that we have actively been assisting some of the Unit Territories in preparing their schemes for port development. The Government of St. Vincent has made application to this Government for this assistance. They have said so—it is open knowledge. The Minister of Production and Trade in St. Vincent has said that. It was necessary for this Government to examine some of these proposals and this would give hon. Members an indication of some of the problems which we in this Federal Government must look at if we are to avoid making decisions which would condemn us to posterity.

The scheme which had been put up to us by the St. Vincent Government was based upon providing a one-berth pier. Yet the report upon which it was based indicated quite clearly that normally one had two ships—the banana ship and one of the Harrison Line—in port at the same time. Furthermore, as Members would know, the banana ship has to be given priority and many a time—in fact, if you had proceeded on this basis, you would find a Harrison ship in port off-loading, the banana ship comes in and then the Harrison ship would have to go out into the stream and permit the banana ship to come in and so on. That appears to us

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to be completely uneconomical and impractical. We examined the scheme with the St. Vincent Government experts and we found that there was a previous proposal for a double-berth pier and we wanted to know what happened to this particular scheme. Why was it that it had not been implemented? Indeed, we found that they had started to implement it and the present pier was supposed to be the first stage in this particular scheme. We have been able to convince the St. Vincent Government that two-berth pier is better for St. Vincent and consequently they are now developing their plan along this line. That, I think, is an indication of the type of technical assistance which this Government is giving to Unit Territories which haven't got that sort of knowledge at their disposal and which, indeed, is the role which this Government should play.

Mr. Speaker, that is not the only field of communications in which we have been active.

Mr. W. B. Williams : Aeroplanes !

Mr. Rose : I hear the hon. Member talking about aeroplanes. If we want to hear about aeroplanes, I would talk about aeroplanes.

Hon. Members may recall that I left Trinidad in order to attend the Conference in the United Kingdom in May this year

Mr. Hector (St. Andrews, Jamaica): We can't keep track of your departures.

Mr. Rose : If you will be patient and listen to me you will be able to keep track. I left in May this year, in order to hold discussions in the United Kingdom on the question of the future of Civil Aviation

in the West Indies. These discussions were attended by a delegation from this Government—which was headed by me—and delegations from the Colonial Office, the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation in the United Kingdom, from B.O.A.C. and B.W.I.A.

5.45 p.m.

Whilst it is not my intention to go into details of the discussions which we had, suffice it to say that I had a number of discussions, not only with these people, but with the then Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation, the Right Honourable Harold Watkinson.

I was also able to get something of the background of the United Kingdom policy towards Air fares. It has since been announced by the Minister. I was able also to get the general policy towards the development of Civil Aviation both in the United Kingdom and in the Commonwealth.

Mr. Speaker, the attitude of this Government all along has been that it would be very foolhardy for it to endeavour to commit itself on any policy on Civil Aviation until the facts were known. I was able to get the United Kingdom Government to accept that fact. We have now decided to set up a Commission of Inquiry into Civil Aviation and indeed they have agreed to pay the full cost of this inquiry when it is set up. We are hoping that the team will be assembled early next year. It will consist of trained people from sources completely independent of the United Kingdom Government. There will be a member from Australia, a member from India and possibly two West Indians in addition to people from inde-

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pendent organizations such as IATA. We are hoping that this inquiry would be set up some time in January next year.

I notice that the hon. Member for St. Catherine keeps harping on this question of West Indian pilots. I know that when I make this statement it will put his mind at ease: that this Government feels that if there is a national carrier—and there is not a national carrier at the moment—that national carrier should be staffed as far as possible by West Indians. I do not think that the hon. Members on the other side would find any reason to differ with respect to that particular statement of policy.

Dr. Duhaney: Hear, hear! On the march!

Mr. Rose: Coming back to my original point, Mr. Speaker, on that particular occasion I also had the opportunity of having discussions in the United Kingdom on other matters, particularly in the field of the development of tele-communications—and here I would like to say something which would possibly assist Members in understanding the problem of the development of television in this area. Whilst it is true that this Government has not taken any decision with regard to television, I think it is only fair that I should indicate to Members some of the considerations involved. For example, it would be the easiest thing at present for a number of individual franchises to be given to companies for operating television in individual Unit Territories; but if one looked at the development of television one would see on the horizon two particular technical developments which in the next few years would make television possible throughout the area. These are the use of

tropospheric scatter radio links and submarine cables to carry the television signals from island to island. Both of these developments could make it possible to have a West Indian television service developed in the area within the next few years.

Mr. W. B. Williams: Why stop Jamaica?

Mr. Rose: If you decide to have television at present then this is what is likely to happen. You will have sets manufactured to meet the particular system of broadcasting in the particular Territory. Members would know that this is based to some extent upon the frequency phase of electricity generated in the area which varies. Even in some Territories like Jamaica they are having this problem of getting unification of electricity frequency. But the point I am making, Mr. Speaker, is that the moment you start doing that you have to manufacture sets for small markets, which is costly; but if there is a West Indian system then sets will be manufactured for larger markets and this would be cheaper in the long run for the West Indian peoples.

But, Mr. Speaker, these are only some of the matters in which we have been active. Sometime before the coming into being of the Federal Government, the Governments of various Territories of the Eastern Caribbean came together and decided it was in their interest to have an Eastern Caribbean Lighthouse Service. On account of the imminence of Federation, however, it was decided to suspend action on this decision until the coming into being of the Federal Government. We have, since the Federal Government has been set up, been able to carry out a fur-

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ther survey which was done by the original people who carried out the first survey. The figures have been now brought up to date and we are now in a position to say exactly what this service would cost us.

We have had preliminary discussions with the Government of Jamaica and we are hoping during the course of this Session to introduce legislation for the implementation of a regional lighthouse service.

Dr. Duhaney : Hear, hear !

Mr. Rose : The Federal Government hopes to make next year—1960—a year of action. We are particularly grateful to the Canadian Government for having appointed one of their top experts on postal services as Postal Adviser to the Federal Government. This particular officer, Mr. Turnbull, is a former Deputy Postmaster General of Canada; he was also for nine years Secretary to Prime Minister McKenzie-King, and was for five years Chairman of the Universal Postal Union, that is to say, he was the No. 1 Postman of the world. We are particularly fortunate to get a man of this calibre to come to advise us, and he is already on a tour of the Territories.

In initiating preliminary discussions towards the progressive federalization of the Postal Services, one of our aims would be to increase the efficiency of the Postal Services. From what we have seen from our cursory examination of the problems, it is indeed possible to effect a number of improvements particularly in the training of personnel. We hope during the next few months to devote our energies towards these improvements and in due course we would be bringing legislation on this subject to this House.

In the field of Merchant Shipping, the Members would have noted that in the Throne Speech the Governor-General indicated that it was the intention of this Government to bring before Members a Merchant Shipping Act. I do not intend to anticipate the debate on that particular matter, but we have been operating for some time now an Inter-Regional Federal Shipping Service. Members would have noted that in 1958 a provision of \$500,000 was made to meet a deficit for that service. I am happy to report that the Service operated within that provision, the actual deficit being a little over \$476,000. The forecast for the year 1959 reduces that deficit. Members would also have noticed that in anticipating the reduction of this deficit we have provided in the 1959 Estimates \$475,000 instead of \$500,000. In the 1960 Estimates we are providing the same amount of \$475,000. That is not because we feel that we would be exceeding what we had last year but because we hope to make provision within this goal for the training of personnel.

Members have been talking about the need to train West Indians for maintaining these ships—

Mr. W. B. Williams : The Cayman Islands.

Mr. Rose : Well I hope that the hon. Member would be pleased with the fact that the Federal Ship, the Kirkdale, comes from the Cayman Islands, and I think that the Captain also comes from the Cayman Islands.

Hon. Members (Opposition Benches) : Hear, hear !

Mr. Rose : We of the Federal Government have been giving this matter of

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obtaining West Indian trained personnel a lot of study, Mr. Speaker. We have got from the Ministry of Transport in the United Kingdom a list of all the West Indians who have qualified and who are registered as qualified captains, engineers and officers. We have also, through the kind cooperation of the Canadian Government, got a list of qualified West Indians who worked on Canadian National Steamships. We have also circulated letters to Unit Governments asking for any information which they may have with respect to trained personnel, and in spite of this we have also initiated a number of investigations with the hope of being able to gather in due course a number of young West Indians who will be sent abroad for training in this particular field.

I think I should place on record the appreciation of this Government for the kind assistance which has been given us by the Government of India. They were faced with the problem of getting properly trained people for their merchant shipping. After they received some independence they found it necessary to start their own training schools and we are told that their training schools were now about the best in the world. I think I might indicate Mr. Speaker that, in this question of our Regional Lighthouse Scheme, it is possible not only to bring economies to The West Indies themselves but by co-operating with some other territories in the region, economies could also be effected. For example, it became obvious at the time when it was surveyed that there was no need to duplicate lights between Guadeloupe, Martinique and other West Indian Islands. So we initiated discussion with the French Government and it was possible to get agreement that where in fact

we provided a light, they would not have to provide one, and where they provided one we would not have to provide, and so the Federal Government has justified itself in the field of international co-operation.

We have been looking forward to assisting small territories particularly. Members will be aware that one of the objects of the Federal Government is to assist the small Governments by providing them with technical aid in the form of necessary qualified personnel which they have been unable to provide for themselves. A panel of technical officers has been recruited and we are at present advertising for a Chief Technical Officer who will be in charge of a station at St. Lucia. He will have under him a number of officers who can be described as roving personnel to assist the Unit Governments in these projects. These are some of the activities in which this Government has been engaged during the past year. We will continue to work along these lines, because it is by strengthening communications between the areas that we would be bringing the people closer together.

In the field of tele-communications, while it is true that this Government has no responsibility for the internal communications of the area, it would be foolhardy to work towards the improvement of the external communications unless the internal communications are also improved. Now that we have an Adviser, it would be possible to initiate discussion with a number of Units with that broad end in view. We are hoping that at the next fiscal year we will be able to report to this House very concrete achievements in this field. In that way it is our view that those Members who have been calling for action

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would appreciate that this Government has justified its existence in the eyes of the West Indian people.

Mr. Afflick (Portland, Jamaica): Mr. Speaker, the first thing I would like to do is to commend the Minister of Finance for a brilliant presentation of a Budget of utter frustration. I commend him the more, because if you would look in the speech you would see that the Minister seems to be suffering from an overbearing fear of the inability of the Council of State to produce a Budget of achievement rather than one of bereavement.

It is customary for the Prime Minister to protect the Ministers of his Cabinet. Here we find the Minister of Finance—who we think is the most capable Minister in this House—trying to protect a Prime Minister who goes out of his way to make irresponsible statements. These statements, Mr. Speaker, have been made about the Unit Territories which provide for the Prime Minister the finance to go on his recreative jaunts in different parts of the world. One speaker said that he did not believe that the Prime Minister made these remarks. He must have forgotten it is only a repetition of the remarks made against Jamaica. We resent those remarks, and we will not go back to Jamaica without putting on record in this House our protest about the Prime Minister's action. I say, Sir, it is not the first time the Prime Minister has seen fit to make these remarks, and he has now seen fit to join another Territory — Trinidad — in these remarks. We in Jamaica resent it and we say the Prime Minister must come out of his chronic insularity which, to my mind, Mr. Speaker, he has inherited by having been the Premier of a very small

Unit. The time has come when we expect the Prime Minister, who is now in big business, the volume and importance of which is tenfold what it used to be, that is to say, he is no longer in charge of a retail store but a big organisation, which is what the Federation is to Barbados, to appreciate his position and live up to it. We are asking the Prime Minister if he expects to remain as such to take a new leaf out of the books of the Parliamentarians who have gone before him and assume a bigger stature, because he is doing almost irreparable damage to the Unit Territory of Jamaica by his statements.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot speak too strongly on this matter, because every section of the Jamaica community has become disgusted about these statements made by the Prime Minister. I make no hesitancy in saying that the Prime Minister seems to have a secret Portfolio, that of entertainment, for which ample provision is made in the Estimates.

Mr. Bousquet (St. Lucia): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, are we debating the Budget?

Mr. Afflick: Ample provision is included in the Budget. We are not here, Mr. Speaker, as little boys. We want this Government to look upon us as representatives of the people and as such we resent being treated as little boys. Time after time this hon. House has been flouted and this is a living example of that. The Council of State is comprised of Members from this House, and we all have our individual and collective rights. We want the Council of State to realise that we are not going to be treated like little boys.

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The back-benchers over there do not wish anything; most of them rely on what the Ministers say and do. But those of us who represent people, who are interested in what is happening, want to be informed not only of little Barbados' Government, but what is happening in the Federation; because when we go home, people want to be advised of what use is Federation, and we have to try to explain.

I heard the Minister without Portfolio read out a series of revenues from different Territories. In his speech he also said that we on this side of the House have drawn \$22,000 for travelling in our Constituencies. That might be quite true; but he didn't say how much was drawn by Members on the Government Benches and he didn't enlighten this House to the fact that my constituency represents an area bigger than Barbados. Members on the Government side each draw the same amount of money as I do to cover an area five times the size of Barbados.

He did not enlighten this House as to the travelling of Ministers. He did not enlighten this House about entertainment and gardening allowances and so on. He saw fit to select the Opposition to place before the public as blood-suckers of the Federal Government. —[**Hon. Members :** Order, order !] It is very enlightening.

I am now beginning to like the Minister of Communications and Works a little, because he seems to be doing a little bit of work. He must not believe that he can frighten a Member whose constituency is in Jamaica. Let him get that straight. We have human rights.

When the Minister without Portfolio spoke, it was to create the impression in this hon. House that the Opposition disagreed with the activities of Government, that they were recipients of money that they were not spending. He did not tell this hon. House that Ministers of Government residing in Trinidad got the same constituency travelling allowance although they are resident in Trinidad. He wanted to create the impression that we on this side of the House were living on the dole of the Federal Government. I think the hon. Member now has a Portfolio, it is "portfoliomylitis".

We are not concerned with the papers that pass through your hands or with your meetings; what we want is to know something concrete; we want to know what transpired at these meetings. We are Members duly elected to this Parliament and we are entitled to know what is transpiring. We do not say that when there is a meeting of Council-of-State they should come out that day and tell us what is happening but after a decision is taken it is no longer secret. I must say that the Council-of-State is treating both the Opposition and their back-benchers as little boys. We sympathise with Members who are not living in areas as advanced as Jamaica but we don't condemn them. We pity them and that is why we are fighting so hard for recognition for them. Even the Member from St. Lucia is suffering from frustration : I say it aloud without fear of saying it in here.

Every Jamaican on this side of the House knows this : that he is free to express himself inside, outside or anywhere

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else. I would like the hon. Prime Minister and Members of the Cabinet to realise that they are causing confusion in this House if they continue to deny us our democratic privileges. The Ministers of Government seem to be of the opinion that they alone are entitled to certain privileges. They get three passages a year to and from their constituencies; we say we do not deny them the right of the privileges of Ministers, but we on this side of the House say that this thing must be neutral.

I did not speak of the size of my constituency in order to belittle Barbados. We want to develop other areas of the Federation. The Minister without Portfolio says that we are giving so and so. I want to make myself quite clear, we are demanding our constitutional and democratic rights, and we in Jamaica resent the criticisms that were made. We would ask the hon. Prime Minister in future to be very careful about his utterances because they do more to disrupt the unity of the Federation than to cement it. We are over a thousand miles away. The Information Services send us releases to the effect that the Minister said this or that; they met and had suppers and dinners and passages, etc. We are demanding from this hon. House that when there is consideration on these debates or deputations, or whatever you want to call them, that we would know about them when we come to this House. We come here not as rubber stamps. Some of the Ministers are spineless and some are brainless; they cannot be penniless. I will not emphasise that any more.

We on this side of the House come here at Sessions and say we are going to do this and that, we make suggestions in this House and the Council-of-State throw them aside and make other decisions and bring them here as though Ministers of the Government are not the Government. And so what do we find? This approaches something sinister, and we on this side of the House are not prepared to sit here like dumb-bells as some of the Members on the other side of the House and bow to the wishes and fancies of the Council-of-State.

In Jamaica, the Leader of the Party which rules this Government, is in difficulty over a statement made about the election of a Prime Minister. He is at his wits' end to know what he can tell the people of Jamaica to keep them calm. When the Press statement was issued last year it created confusion, but this year when the statement was made it was disastrous and the Premier of Jamaica is today doing all that he can to keep the Members of that Party quiet.

6.30 p.m.: *Sitting suspended.*

8.00 p.m.: *Sitting resumed.*

Mr. Speaker : Mr. Afflick.

Mr. Afflick : Mr. Speaker, on looking through the Budget I saw a provision for a Marketing Officer. I came to the conclusion that this might be necessary because, in Jamaica, for instance, the prices for produce have declined, and one industry is faced with disaster. I take it that it is the duty of the Federal Government to provide a market for the different Territories. I refer, Sir, to the decline in

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the price of our cocoa which went from two shillings and sixpence to one shilling, one shilling to one shilling and sixpence, and then to stagnation. The most serious stagnation in Jamaica is in regard to honey. The price of honey last year was eleven shillings per gallon; this year the price has fallen to four shillings per gallon; and at that, the people who buy for exportation have sent out a notice to the effect that they do not want any honey. I have known people who had to take their honey to Kingston (Jamaica), and at four shillings per gallon they could not even buy the things necessary to take back home.

Mr. Bradshaw : Mr. Speaker, I should like to enquire from the Member whether the production of honey is a form of exploitation of bees, which results in the cruelty of insects ?

Mr. Afflick : I am happy to see that the Minister of Finance is so considerate of insects as he calls them. That is why I think he should be more considerate for human beings. This Marketing Officer should give priority to honey which is the main source of existence of some of the people of Jamaica. I heard the Minister of Social Affairs say, "Give us the tools and we will do the job". Now, Sir, the Premier of Jamaica has made it abundantly clear that until this Government prove that they can run the affairs of this Parliament successfully, not one penny more will be allotted. If I am not mistaken the same thing has been said by the Premier of Trinidad, and though my criticism may be hard, I expect to get hard treatment. The worry on this side of the House is that we are not here on a picnic or at the

whims of the Council-of-State. We are here to do a job and that job must be well done.

The people of the Unit Territories are absolutely confused as to the result of the Federation, and we are asking the Prime Minister of this Federal Government to take a different and realistic view of the position, instead of his launching a campaign on the people of the different Territories. They are the people to whom we are responsible. I am sorry the Prime Minister is not here, because I do not like to speak behind his back. But we on this side of the House would like to get better respect from him and from his Cabinet, and the people of the Federation will be able to appreciate that we are trying to dwell together in unity.

We are here, Sir, to try to assist Government, not to destroy it. The Minister of Finance has, as I said before, demanded the recognition of this side of the House because he, at least, is making a serious attempt to grapple with the problems of the Federation. Actually he went so far as to take the burden of the Ministerial Bench and to defend this Bench. And, Mr. Speaker, may I commend him on the presentation of his Budget ? I hope that when the next Budget is presented it will be a Budget of achievement and not one of bereavement. The Prime Minister should try and satisfy the people of the Unit Territories who have sent us here and should discuss his policy with us. It is because the Prime Minister is not giving that unity for which this Federation is supposed to stand, that we have had to register this protest.

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The Minister of Natural Resources and Agriculture (Mr. Ricketts): Mr. Speaker, it seems that I am very unlucky. I am travelling a pathway and being bogged down with afflictions. I think you will have to sympathise with me if I am rather staggered by something that comes from the form of a speech from the lips of my Friend the hon. Member for Portland. What he says doesn't worry me; it doesn't bother me at all for the simple reason that he has just left Jamaica where he has undergone quite a lot of hardship legally and otherwise. It seems to me, therefore, that as he could not hit somebody else with the hard and sharp words that he had previously planned, when he comes out here away from that Unit Government he uses a special kind of term. I sympathise with my Friend; he tried his best; after all, one can only do what one can possibly do.

I listened very attentively to the address given by the hon. Minister of Finance. I think the address is one which both sides of this hon. House regard with respect. I think it is also my duty to comment on the Minister's presentation of such an able Budget speech. One or perhaps more than one Member, Mr. Speaker, questioned the function of my Ministry and hon. Members opposite also made somewhat critical remarks during the course of their speeches; but I am prepared to give to this hon. House a true and factual account of my Ministry. I am going to do it, Sir. — [**Hon. Members:** Hear, hear !] — very much to the letter so that I omit absolutely nothing.

The Federal Ministry of Natural Resources and Agriculture has responsibili-

ties in relation to agriculture, forestry, to fisheries and lands. These responsibilities are mainly of a co-ordinating nature and relate to the establishment, maintenance and regulation of Federal agencies and institutions for research, and the promotion of special studies in relation to natural resources and agriculture. These Federal agencies are themselves concerned with such matters as advising or assisting any of the Unit Governments which together make up our Federation. They are, of course, also concerned with agricultural education, with training and other studies afforded by the Federal or regional institutions.

I say that, Mr. Speaker, because I notice that quite a lot of hon. Members opposite are prepared to make statements and to so frame their addresses that anyone coming from outside, or anyone reading the speeches in the Press or otherwise, might come to the conclusion that my Ministry has the kind of power typical of Ministries in the Units of our Federation. I am sometimes really at a loss to understand the hon. Members opposite who up to now have not been able to read their Constitution to satisfy themselves what is the function of my Ministry.

I am not referring to the hon. Member for Naparima-San Fernando; I am not speaking to him at all. Somebody made some remarks from my side of the House yesterday which were not quite true. What the hon. Member for Naparima-San Fernando really said was that enough was not said in the Budget speech by the Minister of Finance, but he believed that I did more.

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I also heard remarks during another debate yesterday that I sat and laughed and that I never understood what was happening. I would like to tell the hon. Member for St. Mary that I started to balance my budget as a youngster and during those dark and chaotic days, I preferred to look at the revenue side and not at the expenditure side. I notice that hon. Members opposite are prepared to talk the Budget and deal specifically with the revenue side marked expenditure. They have nothing essential to say on the preceding pages marked "Revenue". They want to spend and are not concerned with how you earn? They want to exercise an opinion in formulating plans and to put them into effect but they are not able to tell this hon. House or this Government where the money is coming from or what should be done to procure it. It seems to me that hon. Members opposite are not really cognisant of what is taking place in the island of their origin and the island also of my origin. They are here telling this hon. House that we should do this, we should plant, we should do this with bananas, while the people of their Party in Jamaica are marching with banners on the streets saying, "Away with Federation because it is going to be too much taxation on our shoulders".

Mr. Cargill (St. Mary, Jamaica): To a point of order. If the hon. Gentleman is going to make allegations like that he must make his allegations correctly. I know of no march with any banners by any Party in the Unit of Jamaica. All I am aware of is that the leader of the hon. Member's House has been most active in recent months.

Mr. Ricketts: On a point of order. I do not understand his making a speech telling what another person is doing and who was not referred to.

Mr. Cargill: Mr. Speaker, perhaps I may inform the Minister—he obviously doesn't know parliamentary procedure—that if I do not give way to him he cannot get up and shout out as if he were in a market place. I do not expect him to know better but I think he has an obligation and I would like to teach him.

What I was saying, Sir, was that the hon. Minister should not deliberately come into this House and state wrong facts for political purposes.

Mr. Ricketts: I am indeed sorry if I hurt my Friend, the hon. Member for St. Mary, but I was really referring to what I read in the Jamaica Press yesterday. I read in the Press where the Leader of the hon. Member's Party called all the people inside a conference and asked them if they wanted Federation, and all shouted "No" at his request.

Hon. Member: What about the march?

Mr. Ricketts: I am making this point, Mr. Speaker. If this taxation is to be such a burden in Jamaica as is being stated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Jamaica House, dare you come challenging this Government to have bigger expenditure to inflate the taxation of the country which does not want to be in the self-same Federation.—[Interruptions]

Mr. Speaker, I am continuing. To facilitate the obtaining of adequate advice from the region and to ensure that action

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on agreed decisions may be taken without undue delay and that regional requirements are met to the fullest extent possible, this Ministry has reorganised and established consultative machinery in the fields of agriculture, animal health and husbandry, forestry and fisheries. At the apex of this machinery is the Regional Natural Resources Council which is advisory to me, and comprises all the Ministers in the region whose portfolios include agriculture and natural resources.

Mr. Hector : On a point of order. Is the Minister supposed to read his speech ?

Mr. Speaker : I do not think the Minister is reading his speech; he was just referring to a note.

Mr. Ricketts : I thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. In his own speech a reference was made to the Regional Natural Resources Council. I know that my good Friend the hon. Member for St. Andrews, did not really understand what is meant by the "Regional Natural Resources Council", so I am going to explain it. The Regional Natural Resources Council is a Council formed by my Ministry. It is an advisory Council. It includes all the Agricultural Advisers and Directors throughout our Federation and beyond, to British Guiana and British Honduras.

That Council of Ministers, as I told you, is very much in an advisory position to me. Within this Regional Natural Resources Council, committees are set up.

8.30 p.m.

The first committee emerging from this Council is the Official Standing Committee. This Official Standing Committee is

a committee that comprises most of the technical people of the Federation, dealing with agriculture and natural resources. The last time they met was last week in British Guiana. They met and made recommendations that later on will be dealt with by the Regional Resources Council — sometime, I believe in February — to decide on the action to be taken. Only today around 9.00 o'clock, Mr. Speaker, I had the honour to address a committee meeting of the Regional Research Committee, another committee emerging from this big Council I told you about a while ago. This committee consists of Veterinary Surgeons and Directors. I am happy to state that, coming from the Colonial Office in London, are two top-ranking advisers who are on that committee to assist and to guide our way, and help us in planning ways and means for the development of our natural resources and agriculture.

The Council met for the first time in Federal House and I am going to tell you what emerged from that conference. There arose out of it :

- (i) the extension of the facilities available at the Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute to provide for a Forestry Training School with an annual intake of twenty students. Twenty students have started training — and that is the responsibility of my Ministry; and
- (ii) the appointment of a Silviculturist —

Mr. Hill : What is that ?

Mr. Ricketts : The appointment of a Silvicultural research specialist who is to

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be attached to the Regional Research Centre.

Someone asked me what is that. I myself, sometime ago, asked what it was, but I am happy to be able to explain to you now: Silviculture is really the preliminary stage of afforestation. It is really the agronomic stage—the stage where you start to rear the plants—that's the stage of silviculture, and later on the plants will grow and bring forth your forests.

Training in the United Kingdom of two of our West Indian fellows is being planned. They have not left yet, but preparation is being made that they should leave before the end of this year. These two fellows—and I should tell you that one shall leave from Jamaica and the other shall leave from Barbados—will travel over to England, and connect with Mr. Excell—a butchery expert who came from the Ministry of Agriculture in the United Kingdom year after year to help us in planning the right forms, the right methods for butchery, for flaying and for the correct protection of hides. And Mr. Excell will be responsible to guide these fellows up in England to see that they procure the necessary training and to return to us in The West Indies as fit and proper people, even to train others so that we might not waste so many hides. We might be able to determine our stock and later on provide ourselves with a satisfactory tannery that might assist in the building of the economy of our region.

There are two main committees that function, and I am going to tell you what emerged from the first meeting of the

Official Standing Committee. It was recommended here, Sir, that consideration be given to undertaking investigations in the method of preserving fruit and vegetables, including cold-storage and processing. That is in answer to the question by the hon. Member for the Eastern Counties, Trinidad, earlier today when he asked what my Ministry was doing to provide on two ships—perhaps he believes that we could charter them—cold storage to carry fruit from island to island within the Federation. I must add that the ships being provided are under construction under the aegis of the Ministry of Communications and Works. We have already planned for the safeguard of such a vast quantity of cold storage acreage in it that they will be able.....

Hon. Member: Acreage?

Mr. Ricketts: I say acreage because I know my percentage.

Mr. W. B. Williams: How many cubic feet?

Mr. Ricketts: Good question. I'll tell you the fractions later on. In those boats we have provided the necessary cold storage facilities to answer the question of the Member for Eastern Counties.

Mr. Speaker, arising out of the two sub-committees which I told you about, my Ministry has arranged for the supply of green turtle hatchlings, and my Ministry has requested the Units to accept a certain amount of these hatchlings in order to increase food throughout these Units. I am quite certain, Mr. Speaker, that a few

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well-known Units have already come forward and accepted the very kind offer of my Ministry.

Arrangements were also made in my Ministry for the training of a Liaison Officer in connection with the 1959-1960 sample surveys in the Windward and Leeward Islands, and I will also say that the boys who were trained to go forward—and some of them are right now in Dominica—to do that job were trained in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Agriculture.

Preliminary arrangements for the taking of an agricultural census in 1961 were made by my Ministry, but I must add that the collating of data for this census, where finance and other things are concerned, is now turned over to the Prime Minister's Department; but the work was really started in my Ministry.

In order to carry out its functions my Ministry has, in addition to the administrative and clerical staff, a team of five advisers covering the field of agriculture, agricultural economics, marketing, forestry and fisheries. All these advisers have already made visits to the Unit Territories to familiarise themselves with the several problems involved, and it is satisfactory to report that the services of these advisers have been in constant demand. I make bold to say that my advisers—especially my Marketing Adviser, whom my hon. Friend the Member for Portland welcomed a while ago as a newcomer to my Ministry or a newcomer to the Budget—I must tell my friend that that is a mistake. The Marketing Adviser was in

my Ministry for the past two years and his term of office would have ended sometime in April; but because of the urgent calls that we get from Territories for the services of this Marketing Adviser, the Government found it necessary to ask him to remain to continue doing a very good job. I am not blowing my own trumpet, but I am saying that I have heard—and I have been very glad to listen to—quite a lot of congratulatory remarks being made about the Ministry of Trade and Industry. I am proud of the remarks but I must say here and now that the wonderful job that was being done in England a few months ago by that Ministry had the association of my advisers, and I think it was team-work that carried out such a fine job. I am not boasting, I am giving the facts.

To facilitate the obtaining of adequate advice by the region I was endeavouring to tell you that my Agricultural Adviser is always on the march . . .

Mr. W. B. Williams: Promise me about the rice.

Mr. Ricketts: My Agricultural Adviser was today appointed Chairman of a team that will be leaving here for St. Lucia early in the coming year. St. Lucia was all the while asking for a soil survey expert and it is a hard task for my Ministry to procure two experts from outside. Normally, St. Lucia was placed about fourth on the list to be surveyed but because of the knowledge that these two experts will be coming early in the new year St. Lucia is now placed high up—I think second—on the list, and her survey will start about the month of February.

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In August, Mr. Speaker, my Marketing Adviser, during his stay in England, made special visits to the spinners who buy our cotton from St. Vincent, Montserrat and from the other islands to the north. He made several attempts to negotiate a better deal for these cotton-growers.

I was saying, Mr. Speaker, that on the question of cotton, the Ministry has not yet arrived at any proper solution. The question is genuinely under consideration, and I feel certain that if all concerned would pool their minds together a solution would be found.

I would like also to make mention of further expansions which are being placed in their proper perspective in dealing with the establishment of better markets today. The Marketing Adviser has devoted no little time in the past to the question of setting up a Market Corporation which it is proposed would deal with the orderly marketing of ground provision, vegetables, meat and the storage of processed fish and other processed foods. Also in the making is the establishment of a central dairy under private enterprise to provide for regular supplies of fluid milk, and the development of a dairy farm industry.

I am coming to a very important point, Mr. Speaker, in which I am certain the hon. Member for St. Elizabeth and the hon. Member for Westmoreland would be very interested; that is the question of fisheries. Now, my Fishery Adviser visited Grenada and the Grenadines for which the C.D. & W. has allotted a grant of £15,000, at the end of January, and was able to advise the Government there and

for which advice they were very satisfied. In March, he made a familiarisation tour of St. Lucia, Barbados and Dominica, and in St. Lucia the Fishery School project was examined by him, and I can very safely say that it has been put on a safe footing by my Ministry. The work, Mr. Speaker, that is being carried on in that Fishery School in St. Lucia is something worthy of note by the entire Federation. The job is a very big job and the gentleman in charge—a Mr. Taylor from Canada—is doing a master-piece of work in that area. It is the opinion of my Ministry that all our Territories, especially those nearby, should endeavour to make use of this school. I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, that they are now building their own boats in St. Lucia. They are also studying and investigating the simple methods of deep-sea fishing.

So, Mr. Speaker, you can see that my Ministry has been doing something which I am very proud about, not to the extent that I am extremely happy, because I am conscious of the fact that whatever you do people will say you should do more.

In conclusion, I want to say that the job is being tackled. We have a very hard road to tread, and as the Minister of Finance has told us, I feel sure that with team-work, and with the good arguments that are sometimes deduced by some of my Colleagues of the Opposition benches—for if they are really genuine in their efforts I think they can assist in stimulating the Members on the Government side to go on fighting for a better Federation—we would succeed.

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[**Mr. Ricketts**]

Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to finish my contribution without saying something that would be very distasteful about my Friend the hon. Member for St. Catherine, and therefore I think I will finish on a note in reference to him. I do believe that my Friend the hon. Member for St. Catherine really made a mistake last night when he spoke of "embroidered estates"—

Mr. W. B. Williams : I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, but the hon. Member is misquoting me.

Mr. Ricketts : I might be, Mr. Speaker, but I am just saying what I heard. Perhaps if I were to properly interpret what the hon. Member meant, it would be "embryonic stage".

Mr. W. B. Williams : On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if the hon. Member, the Minister for Agriculture and Natural Resources, has ever tried to reproduce his speech and then go through and correct it ?

Mr. Bradshaw : Is that a point of order ?

Mr. W. B. Williams : He has made a mistake. I never said that ! I said "embryonic".

Mr. Speaker : Am I to understand that one Jamaican cannot understand another ?

Mr. Ricketts : Mr. Speaker, I can easily understand another Jamaican. My Friend is getting nervous about the matter, so that I am not going to say anything more.

Mr. W. B. Williams : Mr. Speaker, I regret very much that the question I asked the hon. Minister as to whether he could give me a guarantee that his Ministry would be able to assist Jamaica in the rice industry was not answered. I would be happy if he would answer me in this respect.

Mr. Ricketts : Mr. Speaker, I thought that question was on the subject of trade. The hon. Member did not say whether he meant the production of rice.

Mr. Joseph : That is what he said.

Mr. Ricketts : If that is what he said, Mr. Speaker, I ask leave now and shall answer the question in time.

Mr. L. J. Adams (St. Vincent) : Mr. Speaker, in making my contribution to this grand inquest of the Nation I would like to direct the attention of Members opposite to the choice language used by the Minister of Finance on Thursday, the 19th instant.

Before I engage my self in making references to certain paragraphs, I would just, for the records, like to say this : that we on this side of the House are aware of the work entailed in preparing a Budget such as that which was laid before us in the form of the Appropriation Bill 1960; but, Mr. Speaker, what strikes us is, as I said before, the choice language used by the hon. Minister of Finance.

In making these references, Sir, I would like to direct Members' attention to Column 18 of the Official Report, dated Thursday, 19th November, 1959 :

"The inconclusiveness of the inter-

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governmental conference which wrangled for nine painful days from 28th September to 8th October last, has left the Federal entity in a state conducive to demoralising immobilism. In such a dangerous condition the Federation is likely to dash the burgeoning hopes of our emergent and hard-pressed people and cause them to be frustrated; to forfeit growing recognition abroad; to court the ridicule of a hard world; to attract the contempt of our enemies and to cause reasonable doubt and awaken latent skepticism in metropolitan quarters. This is indeed a dark night; let the light of reassurance and renewed confidence hasten to disperse its dreary gloom lest decay set in and dissolution be the result."

Mr. Speaker, I did say that I would direct Members' attention to various sections of the Speech of the hon. Minister of Finance. We on this side have accepted this address of the hon. Minister of Finance as an acknowledgment, a confession of the inability of the Government of this Federation to carry out the duties imposed upon them at the Inaugural Ceremony here some time last year; and we say this: that while they said at the 1st Sitting of the last Session that they have completely accepted this challenge to lead this emergent Nation successfully, we are left at a loss to know why the Ministers of the Government have not been honest enough, sincere enough to come to this hon. House and say they are satisfied that they are not able to discharge the duties that have been imposed upon them.

Mr. Speaker, this is not something that we must take lightly, because the hon. Minister of Finance is also the Leader of the House. I will go further and prove, Sir, that this is a confession on the part of the Government of their inability to discharge the functions that have been reposed in them. In doing so, I might in passing, refer to a statement made by the hon. Minister of Finance in his Speech. He said:

"Federation is at once a challenge and a hope." [OFFICIAL REPORT, 19th November, 1959, C. 40.]

9 p.m.

We on this side of the House do not doubt that. I would like to draw Members' attention to another statement by the hon. Minister of Finance. He said:

"The Honourable the Prime Minister has, by his consummate charm and diplomatic skill, succeeded in establishing and maintaining our Commonwealth and foreign relations at a very high level of cordiality; and his department has, with the kind and generous aid of Canadian Experts, drawn up a scheme for a Federal Broadcasting Service." [OFFICIAL REPORT, 19th November, 1959, C. 19.]

Mr. Speaker, we are dealing with the Estimates of Expenditure for the year 1960, and I would like to say that from what is set out under Head VII — Prime Minister — one can see that there is an increase of \$13,555. What I want to say, Mr. Speaker, and what I want to submit to this hon. House is that according to the hon. Minister of Finance, because of this charm of the Prime Minister, we must make it possible to meet further expenditure of

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\$13,555 from our revenue. I would like to emphasise that this statement of the hon. Minister of Finance about the relationships of the Prime Minister, does not tally with the fact that hon. Members will be asked to give their sanction to this additional expenditure.

In the same speech the hon. Minister of Finance stated:

“In the Ministry of Trade and Industry conclusion of the comprehensive and far-reaching agreement of Citrus and the successful Trade Mission to the United Kingdom, stand out to be seen by all and to benefit many of our people and industries.” —[OFFICIAL REPORT, 19th November, 1959, C. 19.]

But, Mr. Speaker, all that we have seen here are increases, viz.: \$3,000 for a Director of Standards; \$1,132 for an Administrative Assistant, and \$710 for a Clerical Officer, over and above the 1959 provision. Further, hon. Members would recall that the hon. Minister of Finance in his address to this hon. House on Thursday 19th inst. asked that sanction should be given to the expenditure of certain sums because of certain services performed by several of the Ministries in 1959. It was a lively issue, and hon. Members on reading the Minister's speech can only come to the conclusion that the Minister of Finance was making a confession not only to this House, but to the Governments and peoples of The West Indies, who are dissatisfied with the manner in which the financial affairs of this Government are being handled.

The hon. Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources made extensive tours to the various Territorial Units and because of these extensive tours, Mr. Speaker, the

Ministry of Finance is now asking Members to provide an additional \$26,621.

Mr. Bradshaw: I suggest that the hon. Member should read the whole of that part of my speech.

Mr. L. J. Adams: I realise, Mr. Speaker, that the Ministers, on account of their extensive tours, have not been able to do their homework!

Turning again to the Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources, it would be interesting to know as a result of these extensive tours, what benefits are likely to accrue to the agricultural economy of the Unit Territories.

If we were to look through the Estimates we would see there provision for a new post of Permanent Secretary at a salary of \$10,800 per annum.

Mr. Speaker: Members should not refer to individual items in the Estimates at this time. A general reference can be made but individual items should be left until we go into Committee of Supply.

Mr. L. J. Adams: Mr. Speaker, as I cannot continue to go into the items of the various Ministries, I can only express the hope that as a result of the expenditure of \$26,621 on Tours by the Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources that some plan of action by the Government to benefit the agriculture of the various Territories will soon be put forward to this hon. House.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that even the Members of the opposite side of the House will agree that the speech of the hon. Minister of Finance was a bold and daring acceptance of the inability of the Ministers of

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Government to discharge their functions.

Mr. Speaker, there is a lot to talk about in reference to Jamaica, Trinidad —

Hon. Members : And what about St. Vincent ?

Mr. L. J. Adams : I am not prepared to say anything about St. Vincent because in this House we had the honour and privilege of hearing a Minister of Government praising the people of St. Vincent for all their efforts; so I will make no special reference to that Territory.

Mr. Speaker, we accepted the terms of the Constitution with the understanding, the knowledge, that the two larger Territories in the Federation — Jamaica and Trinidad — were prepared to join us in our struggle toward nationhood. But here is what has happened. The Minister of Finance had this to say :

“At the inter-Governmental Conference on the Federal Constitution, this Government presented a paper emphasizing salient facts about the financial position of the Federation which should have already been well known. I am persuaded of the necessity to repeat them here, and I do so, Mr. Speaker, in the nature of Byron’s:

‘ . . . telescope of truth

Which strips the distance of its phantasies,

And brings life near in utter nakedness,

Making the cold reality too real.’ ”

—[OFFICIAL REPORT, 19th November, 1959, C. 32.]

I would remind this hon. House that the hon. Minister of Finance told us some time before that he was a realist and he liked to approach all matters in their true form. As

a Minister of the Government, mark you, he came to this House and made this confession in Byron’s “. . . telescope of truth”.

Mrs. Alfrey : We say we are realists and you are a surrealist.

Mr. L. J. Adams : Earlier in his speech, he said :

“I am advised that next year at least two of our non-grant-aided Territories will be forced to do deficit financing on their Budgets. And may I be permitted to remind you, Mr. Speaker, that of our ten Territories, six — Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Lucia and St. Vincent — are grant-aided.”

But, Mr. Speaker, we are left at a loss. We are left to wonder what was meant when the Minister said that “two of our non-grant-aided Territories will be forced to do deficit financing on their Budgets. And may I be permitted to remind you, Mr. Speaker, that of our ten Territories six (naming them) “are grant-aided”. Yet nothing has been done by this Government to allay the fears of the citizens of The West Indies in those grant-aided Territories and to build up their hopes.

You will remember that somewhere in his speech the hon. Minister made mention that “Federation is at once a challenge and a hope”. I say this is a confession on the part of the hon. Minister of Finance whether he wants to admit it or not.

I will ask hon. Members opposite, especially those from grant-aided Territories, in their more sober hours to give full consideration to the contents of the address delivered by the hon. Minister of Finance, because if we were to examine the actions

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of the Minister of Finance towards those grant-aided Territories we would find — and those Members opposite who come from those grant-aided Territories will have to agree — that the sole purpose of this Federal Government is to keep those grant-aided Territories in a static economic condition.

Mr. Bradshaw : Is that one of the pros ?

Mr. L. J. Adams : The hon. Minister knows only too well that all that the Federal Government has been doing towards these grant-aided Territories is to hand out a little charity to maintain certain Social Services which are in truth and in fact necessary. Yet the Government took pains to tell us that one of the chief aims would be and must be to try might and main to better the economic conditions of those six Territories in the Windward and Leeward Group that are grant-aided. What has happened? I aim to prove the intentions of this Government. As has been said by the Minister — I think to give me the cue I shall read it — [Hon. Member: Your Bible, Sir.] —

“It will secure the foundations and reinforce the superstructure of the Federation so as to ensure that the edifice can never be destroyed.”
—[OFFICIAL REPORT, 19th November, 1959, C.18.]

Mr. Speaker, “What edifice”? Federal House? Or the Federation? You came here and have been warned on several occasions by Members on this side of the House that you are not to create in this Federation a top-heavy superstructure. You agree that

your whole purpose will always be to hasten, to further the economic growth of grant-aided Territories in the Federation. Yet in the Budget Speech for the year 1960 you have come here and been bold enough to say that: “In the circumstances the Government has deployed every resource at its command to retrieve the situation and to snatch the Federation from the very lip of near certain disaster.” —[OFFICIAL REPORT, 19th November, 1959, C.18.] What disaster? Disaster because the Minister is cognisant of the fact that all attempts have been made by the Federal Government to destroy the Federation? “This is a time for understanding; for greatness; for magnanimity and for a tangible display of resourceful leadership which this Government possesses.” —[OFFICIAL REPORT, 19th November, 1959, C.18.] He said that the Government possesses all these, yet he hastened to say that the Government “will secure the foundations and reinforce the superstructure of the Federation so as to ensure that the edifice can never be destroyed”. —[OFFICIAL REPORT, 19th November, 1959, C.18.] How? By holding out austerity to the grant-aided Territories instead of helping them to further their economic growth?

Mr. Speaker : It is now 9.30 p.m. Will the Government name a date for the continuation of this Debate?

Mr. Bradshaw : I name Thursday, the 26th instant.

ADJOURNMENT

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—[Mr. Bradshaw].

Adjourned accordingly at 9.34 p.m.