

Price : #1.50

THE STATES assembled on Tuesday,
14th November, 1989 at 10.15 a.m. under
the Presidency of the Deputy Bailiff,
Vernon Amy Tomes, Esquire.

All Members were present with the exception
of -

Senator Bernard Thomas Binnington -
out of the Island.
Senator Pierre François Horsfall - out
of the Island.
Leonard René Hamel, Connétable of
St. Clement - ill.
Leonard Picot, Connétable of Trinity -
out of the Island.
Richard Winter Le Sauteur, Connétable
of Grouville - out of the Island.
Sir Martin Le Quesne, Deputy of St.
Saviour - ill.
Carlyle John Le Herissier Hinault,
Deputy of St. John - ill.
Henry George Coutanche, Deputy of St.
Lawrence - out of the Island.

Prayers

Televised broadcasting of the
Budget.

The President informed the States
that the following letter had been received
by the Bailiff from Channel Television -

``Dear Sir Peter,

CTV BUDGET COVERAGE - 1989

The presentation by the President of

the Finance and Economics Committee of the budget is undoubtedly one of the most important dates in the States' calendar requiring from CTV's point of view some degree of forward planning.

The company now has an 'outside broadcast vehicle' which enables studio standard facilities to be taken into the field either for live or recorded transmission.

I am currently looking into the feasibility and practicality of increasing the amount of broadcast time traditionally devoted to the budget and would appreciate your view on the possibility of allowing us to broadcast the budget speech.

This is not the first time CTV has made this request, but perhaps you might accept that some precedent has been established with the recording of the special sitting of the States on the recent occasion of the visit by Her Majesty The Queen.

Modern equipment is, as you know, lightweight and unobtrusive and no direct lighting would be required in the Chamber although it is possible two lights aimed at the ceiling to increase the general illumination in the Chamber would be desirable.

Your reply to this request will help a great deal in helping CTV assess how much time and resources we devote to the budget.

In addition to covering the morning speech, I am writing to the States' Greffe to enquire about the possibility of using a room in the States' Building as a studio for the day.

Yours sincerely

Sgd. Martyn Farley,

News Editor."

The States decided to refer the letter to the House Committee.

Subordinate legislation tabled.

The following enactments were laid before the States, namely -

1. Employment of Children (General Provisions) (Amendment) (Jersey) Order, 1989. R & O 7987.
2. Pilotage (Dues and Fees) (Amendment) (Jersey) Order, 1989. R & O 7988.
3. Road Traffic (Public Parking Places) (Amendment No. 12) (Jersey) Order, 1989. R & O 7989.
4. Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment No. 23) (Jersey) Order, 1989. R & O 7990.
5. Road Traffic (Saint Helier) (Amendment No. 7) (Jersey) Order, 1989. R & O 7991.
6. Income Tax (Small Maintenance Payments) (Amendment No. 3) (Jersey) Order, 1989. R & O 7992.

Committee for Postal Administration: resignation and appointment.

THE STATES noted the resignation of Deputy Leonard Norman of St. Clement from the Committee for Postal Administration and appointed Deputy Thomas James Jordan of St. Brelade to serve in his place.

Department of Postal Administration: report for 1988.

The Committee for Postal Administration by Act dated 25th October,

1989, presented to the States a Report of the Department of Postal Administration for the year 1988.

THE STATES ordered that the said Report be printed and distributed.

Regulation of Undertakings and Development Law: quarterly manpower returns.

The Finance and Economics Committee by Act dated 16th October, 1989 presented to the States a Report covering the quarterly manpower returns provided under Article 2A of the Regulation of Undertakings and Development (Jersey) Law, 1973, as amended, for the quarters ending 31st March, 1989 and 30th June, 1989.

THE STATES ordered that the said Report be printed and distributed.

Handbook for Members.

The House Committee by Act dated 24th October, 1989 presented to the States a Report on the preparation of a Members' handbook.

THE STATES ordered that the said Report be printed and distributed.

Matters noted - land transactions.

THE STATES noted Acts of the Finance and Economics Committee dated 16th October, 1989 and 30th October, 1989, showing that, in pursuance of Standing Orders relating to certain transactions in land, the Committee had approved -

- (a) as recommended by the Island Development Committee, and in accordance with an Act of the States dated 29th August, 1989, the purchase from the Jersey New Waterworks Company Limited of Field 366 and part of Field 365, Le Pré de Mal Assis, Grands Vaux, St. Saviour/St. Helier, measuring 7.33 vergées, shown on Drawing No. 01/231/1, required for the

construction of Category 'A' housing, for a consideration of #187,632, with each side being responsible for the payment of its own legal fees;

(b) as recommended by the Island Development Committee, the passing of a Contrat de Transaction with Mr. Francis Herbert Amy and Mrs. Josianne Yvonne Amy, née Gollandeau, the owners of Villa Rosa, Gorey Village, Grouville, to enable them to -

(i) demolish the party-owned gables and walls bordering the public footpath;

(ii) establish a new boundary line;

(iii) build as proposed, with rights to establish openings and windows in the wall and gable bordering the footpath as shown on the approved drawings;

(iv) have rights of access for building and maintenance work;

(v) retain ownership of the finished wall and gable, but with an agreement to maintain and decorate them on the public side to the public's satisfaction;

with Mr. and Mrs. Amy being responsible for the payment of all legal fees involved in the transaction;

(c) as recommended by the Resources Recovery Board, the purchase from Mr. David James Le Boutillier, Mrs. Maureen Ann Rondel, née Le Boutillier, Mrs. Anna Lucas Cabot, née Le Boutillier, Mr. Edward John Le Boutillier, Mr. Brian Le Boutillier and Mr. Donald Edward

Le Boutillier, of 2,400 square feet of land in Field 422, St. Brelade, as shown on Drawing No. 460/3, and 183 square feet of land in Field 398, St. Brelade, as shown on Drawing No. 460/6A, required for the construction of two pumping stations, one air valve chamber and a washout chamber in connexion with part of the foul sewer extension scheme to serve the Corbière area, for a consideration of #2,583, with the Board being responsible for the payment of all legal fees involved in the transactions;

- (d) as recommended by the Public Health Committee, the leasing from Mr. Robert Alton of No. 25, West Park Avenue, St. Helier, a four-bedroomed property, for a period of six months from 1st October, 1989, to 31st March, 1990, at a monthly rent of #585, required for occupation by nursing staff at the General Hospital;
- (e) as recommended by the Public Works Committee, the passing of a Contrat de Bornement with Mr. Steven Charles Philip Pallot and Mrs. Dorothy Kilvington Pallot, née Marett, the owners of Seabright, Le Mont de Gouray, St. Martin, in order to establish the boundary between that property and Devon Gardens, Gorey, St. Martin;
- (f) as recommended by the Public Works Committee, the ceding, free of charge, by the Parish of St. Ouen of 517 square feet of land situated at Rue de Vinchelez, St. Ouen, required for the construction of a footpath, with the Committee being responsible for the necessary accommodation works and the payment of all legal fees involved in the transaction;
- (g) as recommended by the Public Works Committee, the purchase from D.M. Satchwell Limited of 297 square feet of land situated at Rue de Vinchelez, St. Ouen,

required for the construction of a footpath, for a consideration of #594, with the Committee being responsible for the necessary accommodation works and the payment of all legal fees involved in the transaction;

(h) as recommended by the Harbours and Airport Committee, the leasing to Ronez Limited of 6,610 square feet of land at La Collette, which housed four cement silos, for a period of nine years, with a triennial rent review, commencing 1st October, 1989, at an annual rent of #5,288;

(i) as recommended by the Harbours and Airport Committee, the leasing to G.P. Express (CI) Limited of 720 square feet of warehouse accommodation in the Freight Terminal Building (Letting No. B.135), for a period of three years, with effect from 1st September, 1989, at an annual rent of #2,160, with annual rent reviews linked to the Jersey Cost of Living Index;

(j) as recommended by the Harbours and Airport Committee, the granting free of charge to Corbeaux Limited of any wayleaves required to lay a sewer across Fields 24, 25, 26, 27 and 46, St. Peter, to connect the property West View House to the main sewer on L'Avenue de La Commune, St. Peter, subject to the company also laying a second pipe, free of charge, from L'Avenue de la Commune to Field 46, for the temporary and/or permanent headquarters of the Air Training Corps, with the company being responsible for the payment of all legal fees involved in the transaction;

(k) as recommended by the Education Committee, the leasing from Mr. Ronald Stanley Taylor and Mrs. Gillian Mary Taylor, née Watson, of No. 19, Regency House,

Regent Road, St. Helier, a one-bedroomed flat, for a period of three years with effect from 1st October, 1989, at an annual rent of #4,160, with annual increases tied to the Jersey Cost of Living Index, required for occupation by an essential employee;

(l) as recommended by the Establishment Committee, the leasing from Wing Commander Richard Henry Brayn Le Brocq and Mrs. Mary Carmen Le Brocq, née Scriven, of The Flat, Highfield, St. Saviour, a one-bedroomed furnished and serviced flat, for a period of three years with effect from 30th September, 1989, at a weekly rent of #108, with the option to renew, on the basis of annual increases from 1st January, 1991 tied to the Jersey Cost of Living Index, required for occupation by an essential employee appointed on a three year contract;

(m) as recommended by the Housing Committee, with the support of the Island Development Committee, the purchase from the Parish of St. Clement of approximately 17,000 square feet of land at 'The Halt', Rue de la Croix, St. Clement, as shown on Drawing No. 1189/5, for a consideration of #80,000, with the Committee being responsible for the payment of all legal fees;

(n) as recommended by the Resources Recovery Board, the purchase from Mr. Gordon John Hervé of 2,862 square feet of land in Field 1002, St. Mary, shown on Drawing No. 449/08/B, required for the construction of a pumping station for Le Rondin foul sewer extension, for a consideration of #2,862, with the Board being responsible for the payment of all legal fees;

(o) as recommended by the Public Health Committee, the leasing to The Jersey Electricity Company

Limited of an area of land measuring 18.48 square metres situated at The Limes, Green Street, St. Helier, required for an electricity sub-station at The Limes Hospital site, for a period of 99 years at a nominal rent of #1 a year, commuted forward to the inception of the agreement, with each side being responsible for its own legal fees;

- (p) as recommended by the Public Works Committee, the cession free of charge from Mr. Patrick McCarthy of 765 square feet of land forming part of the properties known as "La Maisonette" and "La Croix", Le Rue des Prés, Grouville, required for the construction of a footpath, with the Committee being responsible for the costs of accommodation works and the payment of all legal fees.

Matters noted - financial transactions.

The States noted Acts of the Finance and Economics Committee dated 7th August, 16th October and 30th October, 1989, showing that in pursuance of Rule 5 of the Public Finances (General) (Jersey) Rules, 1967, as amended, the Committee had noted that -

- (a) the Education Committee had accepted the lowest of seven tenders, namely that submitted by J.P. Mauger Limited in the sum of #649,598 for the construction of 'N' Block at Highlands College;
- (b) the Housing Committee had accepted the lowest of six tenders, namely that submitted by Mark Amy Limited in the sum of #2,823,696 in a contract period of 112 weeks for the construction of 35 one-bedroom and seven two-bedroom flats at Jane Sandeman Court, Brighton Road, St. Helier;
- (c) the Education Committee had

accepted the lowest of six tenders, namely that submitted by G. Langlois Limited in the sum of #138,860.49 for the construction of two staff houses at Les Quennevais School, St. Brelade.

Matters lodged.

The following subjects were lodged
``au Greffe" -

1. The Budget 1990.
Presented by the Finance and Economics Committee.
2. Population growth: future strategy. P.145/89.
Presented by the Policy and Resources Committee. The States decided to take this subject into consideration on 5th and 6th December, 1989.
3. Draft Road Traffic (No. 34) (Jersey) Regulations, 19 : (P.141/89) amendment. P.146/89.
Presented by Deputy D.J. de la Haye of St. Helier. The States decided to take this subject into consideration on 12th December, 1989.

The following subjects were lodged on 24th October, 1989 -

1. Draft Health Insurance (Medical Benefit) (Amendment No. 35) (Jersey) Regulations, 19 . P.137/89.
Presented by the Social Security Committee.
2. 17 Trinity Road, St. Helier: approval of drawings. P.138/89.
Presented by the Housing Committee.
3. Draft Sea Fisheries (Size Limits) (Amendment) (Jersey) Regulations, 19 . P.139/89.
Presented by the Agriculture and Fisheries Committee.

THE STATES decided to take the

abovementioned items into consideration at the present Sitting.

The following subjects were lodged on 31st October, 1989 -

1. Draft Motor Vehicles
(International Circulation)
(Amendment No. 10) (Jersey)
Regulations, 19 . P.140/89.
Presented by the Defence
Committee. The States decided to
take this subject into
consideration at the present
Sitting.
2. Draft Road Traffic (No. 34)
(Jersey) Regulations, 19 .
P.141/89.
Presented by the Defence
Committee. The States decided to
take this subject into
consideration on 12th December,
1989.

The following subjects were lodged on 7th November, 1989 -

1. Liberation Square, Weighbridge:
planning and construction.
P.142/89.
Presented by the Occupation and
Liberation Committee. The States
decided to take this subject into
consideration on 21st
November, 1989.
2. Rents of commercial property:
control. P.143/89.
Presented by Senator C. Stein. The
States decided to take this
subject into consideration on 12th
December, 1989.
3. Draft Advocates (Amendment No. 2)
(Jersey) Law, 19 . P.144/89.
Presented by the Legislation
Committee. The States decided to
take this subject into
consideration on 21st November,
1989.

Matters lodged ``au Greffe"
withdrawn.

THE STATES noted that in pursuance
of Standing Order 17(6) the following
subject had been withdrawn -

Public Property: Estates Management
Division. P.136/88.
Lodged: 1st November, 1988.
Public Works Committee.

Draft Road Traffic (No. 34)
(Jersey) Regulations, 19 . P.129/89.

THE STATES noted that the
President of the Defence Committee had
withdrawn the Draft Road Traffic (No. 34)
(Jersey) Regulations, 19 (P.129/89)
having lodged revised Regulations on 31st
October, 1989 (P.141/89).

Social Security registration
cards. P.43/89.
Social Security registration cards:
amendment. P.48/89.

THE STATES acceded to the request
of Senator T.J. Le Main that the
propositions regarding Social Security
registration cards (lodged on 18th April
and 25th April, 1989) be considered at the
present Sitting.

Draft Bankruptcy (Désastre)
(Jersey) Law, 198 . P.136/89.

THE STATES acceded to the request
of the President of the Finance and
Economics Committee that the draft
Bankruptcy (Désastre) (Jersey) Law, 198
be considered in Third Reading at the
present Sitting.

Rezoning of land for Category A
housing. P.57/89.

THE STATES acceded to the request
of the President of the Island Development
Committee that the Proposition regarding
the rezoning of land for Category A housing
(lodged on 9th May, 1989 and partially

debated on 29th August, 1989) be considered on 21st November, 1989.

States rental accommodation.

Questions and answers.

Deputy Shirley Margaret Baudains of St. Helier asked Deputy Hendricus Adolphus Vandervliet of St. Lawrence, President of the Housing Committee the following question -

``Many States' rental units of accommodation remain empty for as long as ten weeks (even longer in some cases). How does the Housing Committee account for such long delays in reallocating States rental accommodation bearing in mind the unsavoury conditions many families on top priority are living in?"

The President of the Housing Committee replied as follows -

``Deputy Baudains is, I fear, generalising from one or two specific cases when she refers to delays of up to ten weeks, and even longer in some cases, between the termination of one tenancy and the beginning of a new one. The typical delay is no more than six weeks, and often less.

Where there are exceptional delays, such as ten weeks, this is normally due to circumstances beyond the Committee's control, for example following a bereavement where obtaining vacant possession often becomes difficult due to legal difficulties regarding inheritance of tenants' possessions, and need to give relatives time to remove personal effects of the deceased.

In more normal situations, there can be anything up to four weeks involved in the outgoing tenant moving out, potential tenants viewing the property and the new tenants moving in, having made arrangements for service connexions, carpet and curtain fitting, packing, furniture removal, etc.

When a unit falls vacant, especially after a long tenancy, the Committee takes the opportunity to carry out redecoration and modernisation. In the case of redecoration, we encourage younger tenants to do this for themselves once they have moved in, granting allowances against rent due for the cost of materials used. However, it is not normally possible to do this where tenants are elderly, physically handicapped or single mothers - and in these cases the redecoration is arranged by the Department. Modernisation may involve a new heating system or kitchen, and as competitive tenders need to be obtained, this alone can take several weeks.

Given the above - that is, time taken by the outgoing and incoming tenants to organise their affairs, problems with potential tenants refusing offers, time spent on redecoration and modernisation - I do not think members will be too surprised that periods of up to six weeks often occur between tenancies. I should add, however, that the success of the Committee's own building programme is increasing the workload of my Department. For example, in the last few months, we have completed over one hundred new one-bedroom dwellings in the town area, and as a result have moved very many tenants from two and three-bedroom properties which they were under-occupying. Such movement puts great pressure on my own staff, that of housing maintenance staff at the Department of Public Building and Works, and local contractors whose services are already in great demand because of the heat in the building industry at the present time. The Committee's housing stock has increased significantly in recent years without corresponding increases in staffing levels of Housing Maintenance at Public Works or in my own Department. The Committee's continued ambitious development programme will continue to place pressures on staffing resources

already stretched to their limits.

The States may rest assured, however, that we are very conscious of the plight of those on our waiting lists and we are doing all we can to minimise time between tenancies."

Supplementary questions and answers.

Deputy S.M. Baudains - ``In the light of the fact that according to the Housing Committee that six weeks is the normal amount of time a dwelling is left vacant, one can assume that the sixty dwellings counted on Sunday would be occupied by Christmas?"

President, Housing Committee - ``I cannot answer that question direct, but what I can say is that Deputy Baudains does not help at all when she advises tenants not to take up adequate property that had been offered to them as she has done in two situations recently. When people are offered adequate accommodation I think it is terrible that they should be advised by a States' member not to accept it. No member of the Housing Committee would take up that position."

Senator D.A. Carter - ``I wanted some further clarification of what the President said. It disturbs me a little but did I understand him to imply because I always thought there was an element of choice for people taking housing, the traditional I always thought was two bites of the cherry and then you take what you are given, which again I do not always necessarily agree with and on occasions have been called in to intervene on behalf of a private person. But I understood the President to mean something much more serious than which was that he said Deputy Baudains did not help when she advised people to say no. Is he now saying that there is no element of choice whatsoever; that someone who comes up who is offered a tenancy is not allowed to say no to the first place they are offered?"

President, Housing Committee - ``No, we do try to be as helpful as possible. In the case of elderly people that have brought up a family in a house, they may have lived in that house for 20 or 30 years and they are requested to move on to a one-bedroomed flat; this is a very emotional and very traumatic situation for them and we do our very best to accommodate them, but what we do is offer them as good accommodation as we can. There is occasionally an element of choice allowed, but what I said and I maintain what I said, it does not help for a States' Member to come along and say in front of my Department - `do not take that, they can get you something better than that'. I think this is not helpful to say the very least, because none of our accommodation is bad."

Deputy R.W. Blampied - ``Is it true that a certain person that was being evicted was advised by Deputy Baudains not to take the first two offered? We were under considerable pressure to find a third place."

President, Housing Committee - ``I cannot say whether the Deputy was involved with the first two offers, that I do not know but I know she was involved with one, in that particular case, and another case as well."

J.M.T. bus services. Questions and answers.

Deputy Shirley Margaret Baudains of St. Helier asked Senator Richard Joseph Shenton, President of the Defence Committee the following questions -

``We are informed by the Managing Director of the J.M.T., Mr. Stewart Humphrey, that `the level of bus services cannot be maintained indefinitely without further subsidies'.

Question 1

1. If the bus service were to be cut back even further, what steps if any would the Defence Committee take to rectify the situation?"

The President of the Defence Committee replied as follows -

“The J.M.T., as a private company, are required by their owners to run at a profit. If, as their Managing Director states, they would ‘not maintain the level of services indefinitely without further subsidies’ then the Defence Committee would review that situation as and when it arose. Subsidies are of course a matter for this House to discuss and vote on. I must point out that subsidisation could raise many more issues than exist at present.”

Deputy Baudains

Question 2

“Does the Defence Committee feel that the bus services at this time are adequate?”

President, Defence Committee

“In view of the commercial restraints under which the J.M.T. operates and bearing in mind that no bus service is ever 100 per cent of what people desire, then we consider that the present service operated by the J.M.T. is the optimum which can reasonably be expected under very difficult circumstances.”

Waterfront Advisory Group.
Questions and answers.

Deputy Cynthia Miriam Rumboll of St. Helier asked the Connétable of St. John, President of the Island Development Committee the following questions -

Question 1

“On 6th June, 1989 the President of the Island Development Committee told this House that the Committee has established a Waterfront Advisory Group which is currently preparing a brief for consultants - for the waterfront. The brief is being prepared for the Island Development Committee and the States will be asked to approve it before it is passed to the consultants’.

In view of that statement will the President now inform the House when the report and proposition will be presented, and give the reasons for the delay?”

The President of the Island Development Committee replied as follows -

“I cannot say exactly when the report and proposition concerning the consultants’ brief for the St. Helier waterfront development plan will be presented to Members although I believe it will be in the very near future. The brief prepared by the Waterfront Advisory Group was approved in its entirety by the Island Development Committee as long ago as 7th September, 1989. However, because it is a wide-ranging document dealing with major policy issues, it needed to be considered by the Policy and Resources Committee.

That Committee considered the brief, and a covering report and proposition which asked the States to approve it, on 20th September, 1989, but referred it back to my Committee by a majority decision, saying (and I quote) -

“that it could not support the proposition as drafted because to do so would suggest to the consultants that Members shared the views of the Waterfront Advisory Group on the many key issues raised in the planning brief, for example, whether a marina should be sited at Havre des Pas. If individual elements were not supported the only course

of action would be for the proposition to be rejected. The Committee considered whether this difficulty could be overcome by separate propositions being tabled on the key issues, or by the proposition being reworded so that the States simply agreed to note the planning brief. The Committee decided, however, that it would strongly recommend to the Island Development Committee that it presented the planning brief and report of the Waterfront Advisory Group to the States, in the forms of an in-Committee debate with that debate being focused on certain highlighted key issues. A debate in this form would give Members of the States the opportunity of expressing their views. Moreover, a tape/transcript of the debate could be given to the consultants who would be appointed to produce a Development Plan for the St. Helier waterfront area, so that they were aware of the views of Members on particular issues.'

I was not present at that meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee, and Deputy T.A. Le Sueur who is also a member of the Island Development Committee dissented from the decision.

My Committee has thought very carefully about how it should proceed with this matter in the light of the views of the Policy and Resources Committee. It cannot agree that the States deliberation should be an inconclusive 'in Committee' debate, nor that a transcript will help the consultants in any way. As anyone in this House who has ever appointed consultants or advisers will know, it is imperative that clear guidance be given on what is required of them. For this reason, the Committee believes that the brief, or at the very least, the main elements of it, has to be explicitly approved by the States.

The Committee has, however, accepted the need for the States to consider

the major issues before it can endorse the brief as a whole, and has accordingly redrafted the proposition and covering report to reflect this. This amended draft projet was approved by the Committee as recently as last Thursday and has been forwarded to the Policy and Resources Committee for its further consideration. As soon as it has been cleared by that Committee it will be lodged and, I hope, debated as soon as possible."

Question 2

"Will the President confirm that the report prepared by the Waterfront Advisory Group will be presented in its entirety?"

President, Island Development Committee

"Yes."

Question 3

Deputy C.M. Rumboll

"All or part of the document prepared by the Group was reported in the media as long ago as 21st September, 1989. Does the President not agree, therefore, that it is time that his Committee formally published the report, and made it available to States' Members?"

President, Island Development Committee

"I should like to point out that the report in the Jersey Evening Post on 21st September, 1989 was not the result of a formal release by the Island Development Committee or the Waterfront Advisory Group, nor, I am happy to add, did it arise from an 'informal release' by any individual member of those bodies or the officers who advise them.

I do agree with the Deputy that it is high time that the waterfront planning brief is published, debated and I hope approved."

Supplementary questions and answers.

Deputy C.M. Rumboll - ``I am delighted that the President and I do agree on some issues and thank you for your answers. But does the President not agree that these delays which are in part due to his Committee and in part due to the process of the Policy and Resources Committee can only act as a disincentive to any public spirited person who is helping this House through with its major decisions? And does he not further agree that perhaps this question should have been more properly asked of the President of the Policy and Resources Committee, that one of the admitted roles of the Policy and Resources Committee was to speed up the decision making process and at this time, does he not realise that we shall not in fact be debating this until well into next year?"

President, Island Development Committee - ``I fully concur with your comments and sadly this is going to be the case but this is a point that I think Deputy Rumboll raised when we were talking about property management. The situation is that in my opinion, too much is going to Policy and Resources, the control is being thwarted and everything is being geared down to the ability of certain members of Policy and Resources to give the time to be able to give it adequate study and in my opinion this is wrong and perhaps we must look at other ways of managing our affairs."

Senator B. Brooke - ``As one listens to the promises of the very near future, and as soon as possible, and for those of us who are ordinary members of this House, it is really, and I wonder if the President agrees, that it is getting to the stage where the percolated or sieved projet comes to the rest of us in the House in a way that is really not acceptable? How soon can we get the waterfront report?"

President, Island Development Committee - ``I would answer that by asking another question - how long is

a piece of string?"

Senator Brooke - ``That is not a satisfactory answer to my question."

President, Island Development Committee - ``I will bring it to the House as soon as it is possible. I want to debate it and I think that Deputy Cynthia Rumboll was quite right, the people who contributed to that report must find it very frustrating to have these things left and left, and brought to a debate when everyone has lost interest by the time it comes here for debate and I agree that I will bring it to the House as soon as possible."

Senator R.R. Jeune - ``Would the President of the Island Development Committee not agree that in fact the Policy and Resources Committee's views on this matter go back as far as 20th September, nearly two months and that at any time the Island Development Committee was free to make public that report or to bring it to the House irrespective of Policy and Resources? But the Policy and Resources Committee having tried to be helpful about seeing the difficulties that could arise with the kind of proposition that was put forward by the Island Development Committee, sent it back to the Island Development Committee with their views, I say nearly two months ago and we have heard nothing since, does he not agree with that?"

President, Island Development Committee - ``I feel that my Committee out of respect for the senior position that Policy and Resources take in our deliberations, have wanted to cooperate fully and hence a lot of negotiation, a lot of discussion has taken place with officers of both committees. It is my opinion now, that committees must be strong and I will follow the dictum of Senator Shenton when he said, `bring a proposition to the House'. Well, we will do, and I think this is the only way that we are going to move forward, because I have been bringing propositions to this

House, I am still waiting for news of the golf course at La Moye. When are we going to get some news on that - the whole thing is slowing down, grinding to a halt?"

Senator D.A. Carter - ``Having received a green light from Policy and Resources and the general approval of this House to the concept of publishing the report. Will the President publish the report of the Waterfront Advisory Group tomorrow?"

President, Island Development Committee - ``The proposition and report, I have it here, and this will be distributed to Members very, very, quickly. I can arrange for them to be hand-delivered."

Senator R.J. Shenton - ``Is the President satisfied that the members of the Waterfront Advisory Group, who are non-elected members, they were nominated by this House and they were certainly not elected by the public, is he satisfied that they are not endeavouring to influence decisions through the use of the media and alter States' decisions already made? Are you satisfied that this is not happening?"

President, Island Development Committee - ``I am satisfied that the members of the Waterfront Advisory Group were a body of responsible people and I have not seen any sign that decisions made by the States previously are trying to be altered by any of that Group."

Senator J.S. Rothwell - ``How was the President able to conclude that the report referred to which was published in the Jersey Evening Post and was informally released, how could he conclude that this was not released by any member of the committees associated with the Island Development Committee?"

President, Island Development Committee - ``Because the person who released it told me that he had, and

that person was not a member of the Island Development Committee or the Waterfront Advisory Group and I accepted that situation."

Residential accommodation.
Questions and answers.

Senator Terence John Le Main asked Deputy Hendricus Adolphus Vandervliet, Deputy of St. Lawrence, President of the Housing Committee, the following questions -

Question 1

"Can the President confirm that the Committee refused an application from Sarum Hotel Limited to buy the neighbouring property 'Home Lea', New St. John's Road, at a committee meeting on 23rd June 1989, and then almost immediately instructed the Autorisé's Department to contact the owner in order to buy the house on behalf of the Committee?"

The President of the Housing Committee replied as follows -

"My Committee did indeed refuse on 23rd June, 1989, the application of the Sarum Hotel Limited, to purchase the property 'Home Lea', New St. John's Road, for reasons which were entirely unconnected with the Committee's later interest in the property. The company wished to buy the property for use as staff accommodation; my Committee rejected the application as one which was not in the best interest of the community. My Committee will not normally allow residential units to be changed to commercial use unless compensating residential units have first been provided from commercial floorspace, and in this we are at one with the Island Development Committee. On 7th July, my Committee considered an appeal by the company, which appeal was also rejected but only after giving the company an opportunity to put its case to the Housing Sub-Committee and a visit to the property

by the Housing Committee itself.

Given the current shortage of States' rental and loan dwelling accommodation my Committee is actively looking at all units of accommodation which become available in the private sector. We consider such units with a view to their development potential and, in particular, whether they may be assembled with other properties to form a larger development in due course.

Having rejected the appeal of the Sarum Hotel Limited, my Committee instructed its own department to look at 'Home Lea' and a visit was made by the Estate Manager and the Land and Property Officer. The property was found to have very limited development potential and the Committee showed no further interest in it. 'Home Lea' remains, however, a residential property with clear local occupancy conditions on it.

Can I just say, that this company has made a public issue of this and is attacking the Housing Committee on all sides. I do not propose to answer any supplementary questions on this paper, I will of course answer questions that I have been given notice of in the normal way."

Supplementary question and answer.

Senator Le Main - "Is it not correct that the Sarum Hotel were prepared to provide residential accommodation on a commercial site to be found, and is it not correct they only sought Island Development Committee permission to house staff in that property while they were doing it?"

President, Housing Committee - "The company was properly advised and I do not want to answer any further questions. The questions must be put down and they will be fully answered."

Senator Le Main

Question 2

``Does the President not feel that this action can at best be seen as opportunist, and at worst a blatant abuse of the Committee's powers as a decision making body of the States privy to confidential information?"

President, Housing Committee

``My Committee's actions were neither `opportunist' nor `a blatant abuse of the Committee's powers'. The application was rejected for good reasons as described above. Our own interest was part of our overall drive to increase the States' rental and loan housing stock in the interests of the Island."

Supplementary questions and answers.

Senator B. Brooke - ``Before this application was put in was the Housing Committee aware that this house was on the market?"

President, Housing Committee - ``No. This was the first application as far as I can recall for the sale of this property."

Senator Brooke - ``So that it was because of information that the Committee had, that they then proceeded with their own application?"

President, Housing Committee - ``I have already said, we actually visited the property. It was after having visited the property and after having given the company every opportunity to make its case and the whole thing was properly and completely explained to them."

Social Security registration card.
P.43/89.

Social Security registration cards:
amendment. P.48/89.

THE STATES commenced

consideration of a Proposition of Senator Terence John Le Main regarding Social Security registration cards. After further debate, the States acceded to the request of Senator Terence John Le Main that the Proposition be withdrawn - on an assurance being given by the Vice-President of the Defence Committee that that Committee would undertake to review the whole question of identity cards.

Bankruptcy (Désastre) (Jersey)
Law, 1989. P.136/89.

THE STATES, subject to the sanction of Her Most Excellent Majesty in Council, adopted a Law entitled the Bankruptcy (Désastre) (Jersey) Law, 1989.

Health Insurance (Medical Benefit)
(Amendment No. 35) (Jersey) Regulations,
1989. P.137/89.

THE STATES, in pursuance of Articles 18 and 46 of the Health Insurance (Jersey) Law, 1967, as amended, made Regulations entitled the Health Insurance (Medical Benefit) (Amendment No. 35) (Jersey) Regulations, 1989.

17 Trinity Road, St. Helier:
approval of Drawings. P.138/89.

THE STATES, adopting a Proposition of the Housing Committee -

- (a) approved Drawing Nos. 87-390-07, 08 and 09 showing the refurbishment and conversion of No. 17 Trinity Road, St. Helier to provide three one-bedroomed and one bedsitter units of accommodation;
- (b) authorised the Greffier of the States to sign the said Drawings on behalf of the States.

Sea-Fisheries (Size Limits)
(Amendment) (Jersey) Regulations, 1989.
P.139/89.

THE STATES in pursuance of
Articles 2 and 6 of the Sea-Fisheries
(Jersey) Law, 1962, as amended, made
Regulations entitled the Sea-Fisheries
(Size Limits) (Amendment) (Jersey)
Regulations, 1989.

Motor Vehicles (International
Circulation) (Amendment No. 10) (Jersey)
Regulations, 1989. P.140/89.

THE STATES, in pursuance of
Article 1 of the Motor Vehicles
(International Circulation) (Jersey) Law,
1953, made Regulations entitled the Motor
Vehicles (International Circulation)
(Amendment No. 10) (Jersey) Regulations,
1989.

THE STATES rose at 2.50 p.m.

E.J.M. POTTER

Greffier of the States.