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Steelbands Association president Mr. George Goddard speaking at the ACDC/DLP meeting on Tuesday night. On his right are Mr. A.N.R. Robinson and lawyer Mr. Charles Tyson. Extreme right is Opposition Leader Mr. Vernon Jamadar.

GODDARD SACKED FROM \$400 POST

GEORGE GODDARD has been fired from the post of Adviser on the Improvement of Steelband Music.

The 46-year-old president of the Steelbands Association who had been working on a month-to-month basis since his two-year contract expired last September, was informed by letter on Tuesday that the government did not propose to renew the contract.

The letter signed by Mr. Dodderidge Alleyne, Permanent Secretary to the Prime Minister, instructed Mr. Goodard to proceed on 30 days' vacation effective from Tuesday after which his services as Adviser on the Improvement of Steelband Music would be terminated.

He was further informed that if he wished to revert to his former position of Evaluator of Malaria in the Insect Vector Division of the Ministry of Health, he should write to the Permanent Secretary in that ministry to whom a copy of his letter of termination had been sent.

For his work as adviser Mr. Goddard was paid a salary of \$400 per month plus travelling expenses.

He said that when he left his position in the Ministry of Health his salary was \$200 per month.

Mr. Goddard stated that two months before his contract expired, he had written a letter to the Director of Personnel Administration pointing out that he had accepted the position after he received a verbal guarantee that a permanent post of adviser to the government on the Improvement of the Steelband would have been created before his contract expired.

CONTRACT

He said that he was also told that he would have been allowed to keep a car to carry out his duties.

He stressed that as a result of the terms under which he had accepted the job he had bought a \$5,000 car on hire purchase and had also acquired a home at Diamond Vale under a mortgage plan.

On September 15 last he received a reply to his

'It's an attempt to subject me to financial strain'

letter from the Ministry of Planning and Development informing him that arrangements were being made for his contract to be renewed for one year.

CONDUCT

The letter stated further that an appropriate clause, v e t t e d by the Legal Secretary to the Attorney-General, would have been inserted in the contract requiring him to give strict adherence to the rules and regulations governing the conduct of civil servants.

Mr. Goddard claimed that since April last year when a three-man delegation led by him met a NJAC team to discuss a rumour circulating that the steelbands were opposed to NJAC he had received few instructions from his superiors concerning duties to be performed.

As time went by he realised his duties were being performed by other

persons he said.

He added that whenever he met senior officials he brought up the question of his having no work, but nothing was done about the situation.

On one occasion he said, the Director of Community Development told him that no policy had been laid down as to what duties the Adviser on the Improvement of the Steelband should perform.

A BILL

Mr. Goddard said the letter from the government terminating his services was handed to his wife at his home late on Tuesday. He was out the time.

The Steelband Association head, who is an active member of the ACDC-DLP party, described his dismissal as a "deliberate move on the part of the government to embarrass me and subject his family to great financial strain.