

# INSIDE ANGUILLA

*It is unfair to listen to false rumours about gangsterism and anarchy in Anguilla. It is equally unfair to regard the delicate situation there to be the lust for political power and not the result of long standing grievances and the sacrificial and united efforts of the Council and the Anguillians in general, to pull their island from the slums of neglect, poverty and want to the heights of development and prosperity. The determination of the people stands firm and final: "No Bradshaw, no St. Kitts." But with no discrimination against Kittitians.*

THE LIGHT AIR-CRAFT touched down on the airport and taxied to within 25 feet of the Terminal Building over which the Anguillan Flag proudly waved in the light breeze. In this building, I expected to face serious Customs and Immigration Officers determined to prevent any slackness at this port of entry. As I watched the passengers being checked, a lie in all its nakedness stood out. That lie was that Anguilla was a sort of place where unconstrained lawlessness occurred at the ports. No one should be foolishly misled to believe that Customs or Immigration can be evaded at the airport or the seaports.

During my travels in Anguilla to the time I should depart at Wall-blake Airport, I was determined to get the firsthand information I wanted. I never had any doubts concerning the situation in Anguilla and I certainly did not hope to meet with any doubters. Many people with whom I spoke told me, "We have no doubts of our intention complete separation from St. Kitts and the handling of our own affairs." Ask the man on the street what he thinks about the situation and he will reply in a drawl, "Well — I think it is something good — we can see how our money is being spent — and — we are better off than before." I wanted to hear the views of both young and old so I asked a 17 year-old student what she thought of a united Anguilla-St. Kitts. "Quite frankly," she said, "If Anguilla were to rejoin St. Kitts, I would refuse to be called an Anguillan and would seek citizenship elsewhere." I put the

same question to a 78 year-old man. "It would be sheer ignorance," he said, "if we were to return to St. Kitts after we have gone so far. The world would think we are a bunch of puppets." I was just going to say something when he suddenly leaned forward, stared me in the face, and shouted: "Must the dog return to his vomit?" Again he demanded, "why should the dog return to his vomit?" I felt compelled to speak so I told him for no reason. From east to west, from north to south, I have not met one person who spoke in regretful tones. There is a unity of purpose and determination among the people that is admirable. As a matter of fact, it is one of their basic characteristics. It stands unshaken despite minor disputes involving land and other affairs.

As everybody knows, the dispute between Anguilla and St. Kitts did not begin overnight. It certainly did not take the People's Action Movement to start anything or to point out anything to the Anguillians. The people lived with their problems and so, were always conscious of them. One woman told me: "I be-

## GLAND DISCOVERY RESTORES YOUTH IN 24 HOURS

Sufferers from less of vigour, nervousness, weak body, impure blood, failing memory, and who are old and worn-out before their time will be delighted to hear of a new gland discovery by an American doctor. This new discovery makes it possible to quickly and easily restore vigour to your glands and body, to build rich, pure blood, to strengthen your mind and memory and feel like a new man in only 3 days. In fact this discovery which is a home medicine in pleasant, easy-to-take tablet form, does away with gland operations and begins to build new vigour and energy in 24 hours, yet it is absolutely harmless and natural in action. The success of this amazing discovery, called VI-TABS, has been so great that it is now being distributed by all chemists here under a guarantee of complete satisfaction or money back. In other words, VI-TABS must make you feel full of vigour and energy and from 10 to 20 years younger, or you merely return the empty pack, and get your money back. VI-TABS costs little and the guarantee protects you.

### By a CORRESPONDENT

I believe there was something boiling in the hearts of the people for many years and only last year it boiled over. I am with it all the way." A day later as I drove with Mr. John Webster, he gave me two dispatches sent to the Colonial Office by the Anguillians in 1825 and 1873 respectively.

The first one reflected the displeasure of the people when the power of their local council was reduced and certain administrative powers were transferred to St. Kitts. This led the Anguillians to ask a serious question that was to be applicable to this very day. "Can we indulge a hope that laws enacted particularly for this community, can or will be made with much regard to its interest, when they are to be passed by a body of men living in a remote island, possessing no property of any kind here and having no connexion or relation whatever?"

The second dispatch claimed that Anguillan trade had been curtailed and that duties had become exorbitant under the St. Kitts regime. "The interests of Anguilla, its resources and capabilities of development are not understood by the Legislative body of St. Christopher who are utter strangers to us, ignorant of the community, careless of their wants, and therefore unequal to discharge the important duties of legislation. This legislative dependence on St. Kitts can in no sense be called a legislative union, has operated, and continues to operate most injuriously against us, and is mutually disliked."

Though for a long time the people of Anguilla found themselves

subjected to the St. Kitts Government, there was some hope in the Colonial Office from where the internal affairs of the colony of St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla were administered. But with the coming of Statehood on February 27, 1967, the situation had deteriorated for the Anguillians found themselves completely at the mercies of the St. Kitts Government whose quality of men and policies they never trusted. They then decided on self-determination: that is to say, independence from St. Kitts, Crown colony status or trusteeship under some major democratic world powers.

At present, the people through an elected council of seven members — all men of admirable courage and sincerity — are running their own affairs. They are doing well and must be considered on their own. Britain has provided a Senior Civil Servant — Mr. Tony Lee — to help with the administration of the island; but even without him, there is normalcy in the island.

Looking around, work is going on smoothly in all Government Offices in which there are new desks and portable typewriters: a sight more pleasing than previously; and for all employees, there is

complete satisfaction. "There is not a month that Civil Servants aren't paid," Mr. John Webster Director of the Civil Service told me.

Last month an induction course for training teachers was held at the Road School. It is expected that some of these teachers will teach at the prefabricated school given to Anguilla recently. And there is much expectancy that a number of students from the Secondary School eligible for the "A" level G.C.E. will leave the island for Puerto Rico on a one-year Scholarship basis with an option to remain on their own thereafter for further studies.

Still another interesting feature is the Mobile Clinic, a gift from the Plumsock Fund to the people of Anguilla. With the equipment it carries, it will be used for dental work and is itself, a highly improved ambulance. At the handing over ceremony late last month, it was disclosed that five years ago it was offered to Anguilla, but Mr. Southwell, the then Chief Minister, rejected it on the grounds that the roads were bad, it would not be cared, there was no garage for it and that, as a matter of fact, Anguilla did not need it.

Looking at the Health Department in general, a good job is being done and the presence of sanitation is everywhere. Mr. Campbell Fleming, who was a male nurse in Curacao for 20 years now Maintenance Officer for the Cottage Hospital and Health Centres, told me that health and sanitary conditions have improved, that there are plans for further improvement and

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## In the West Indies Associated States Supreme Court Saint Christopher Circuit

A.D. 1968

Notice is hereby given that the Honourable the Resident Puisne Judge has appointed the day of the month on which the October Criminal Sessions of the High Court in Saint Christopher shall open as follows, that is to say: —

Tuesday the 1st day of October, 1968 at 9.30 o'clock in the forenoon.

Dated the 10th day of September, 1968

S. DANIEL  
Acting Registrar

