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Today's Thought

If men knew how women pass the time when they are alone, they'd never marry — O. Henry.

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Govt. Facing A Delay On Car Insurance Plan

Ferre Views Higher Loan Interest Rates

By FRANK RAMOS
STAR Special Writer

Gov. Ferre told a group of bankers Friday that it might be necessary to increase the island's current legal limit on the interest rates that can be charged for loans over \$3,000.

In a speech before the Association of Banks at the Caribe Hilton Hotel, Ferre noted that interest rates on FHA mortgages has risen from 5.25 per cent in 1966 to the current rate of 7.5 per cent. This is only 0.5 per cent below the existing 8.0 per cent ceiling on loans of \$3,000 and over, he said.

"Perhaps the moment has arrived to ask ourselves if the 8 per cent limit is realistic in the light of the sudden changes that are occurring in the money market," Ferre said.

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The Governor added that it might be necessary to take some steps — such as the establishment of a "fixed differential" that would permit fluctuations in the maximum depending on conditions in the money market — in order that sources of credit will not be shut off for business and industry.

Ferre also suggested that ways be studied to promote savings so that there will always be sufficient funds available locally to finance the island's economic expansion.

Despite the rising interest rates and the tight money market, Ferre said, the island's economy is "moving vigorously." During the first two months of this year, he said, 90 industries representing a total investment of \$105.7 million had been promoted as compared to 85 industries with a total investment of \$85 million during the same period last year.

Departing from his prepared text, Ferre said new industries representing a total investment of \$300 million would soon be established in Puerto Rico. He gave no additional details however.

Ferre promised, nevertheless, that his administration would closely watch rising interest rates, in order to be ready "to take whatever action is necessary to assure the continued growth of our economy." (See FERRE, Page 16)



British soldiers maintain radio communications with other red-beret paratroopers throughout the 35-mile long island of Anguilla which was bloodlessly invaded last week, while an armed "Red Devil" surveys the terrain. (AP Photo)

Lee Tightens Hold On Anguilla; Engineers Will Be Brought In

By ROBERT BERRELLEZ
(Associated Press Writer)

ANGUILLA (AP) — British Commissioner Anthony Lee tightened Her Majesty's civil grip on rebellious Anguilla Friday while in London the defense

ministry said it would begin pulling back its landing force from the island this weekend.

The announcement that Britain intended to replace paratroopers on the island with engineers came after Lee had

moved his papers and headquarters into the island's administration building.

Secessionist acting President Ronald Webster was barred from entering the building when (See ANGUILLA, Page 16)

New Agency Is Needed To Run Program

By DAVID PEREZ
and BETSY MIRANDA
Of The STAR Staff

Special legislation may be necessary to delay the effective July 1 date of the government-sponsored compulsory automobile insurance system unless the Commonwealth can create a new agency to administer it by then, it was learned Friday.

"In my opinion, it will be a near-impossible task to get the agency started," Public Works Secretary Antonio Santiago Vazquez said.

According to the Traffic Accident Insurance Law passed June 26, 1968, by the Legislature:

—The system is to be administered by the Traffic Accident Compensation Administration, which was to have been organized in July (See INSURANCE, Page 16)

Sanchez Will Testify On Island Status

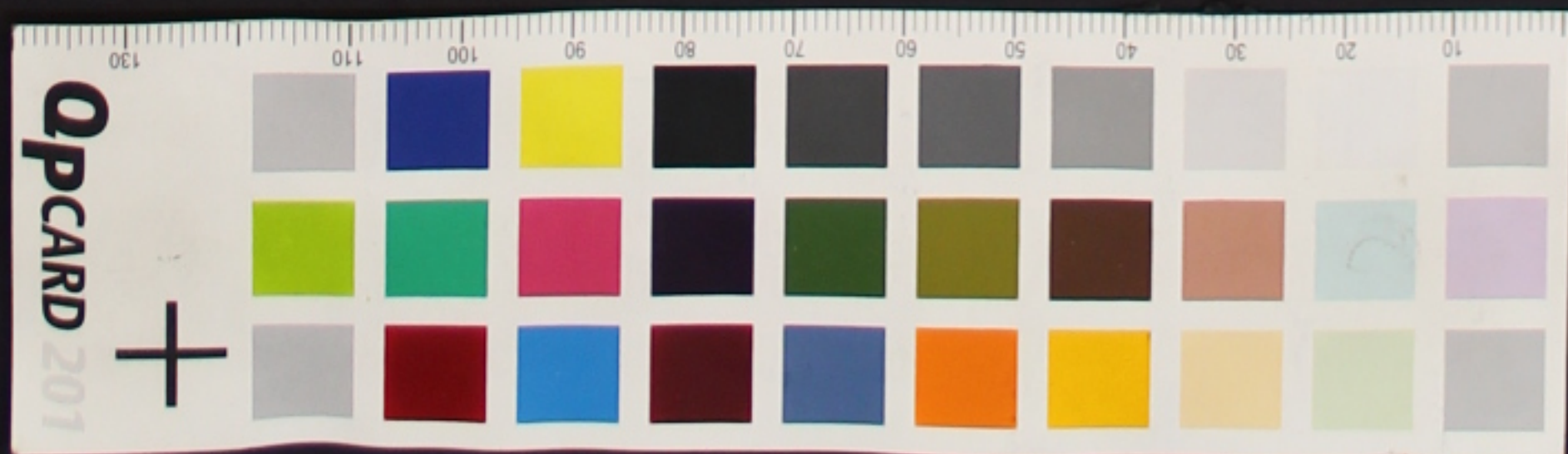
By MANNY SUAREZ
Of The STAR Staff

Former Gov. Roberto Sanchez Vilella will be the first witness to testify before a special Bar Association committee preparing an agenda for the Ad Hoc committees on commonwealth status.

Lino Saldana, chairman of the special committee, said the hearings are to enable the association to recommend the subjects that should be taken up by the Ad Hoc committees once they are named by the Governor.

In response to a question at a Friday night press conference, Saldana said there is no contradiction in preparing the agenda before the Ad Hoc committees are named because, according to the Status Plebiscite Law, the Governor must name the committees.

The hearings will be held at the Bar Association each night, Monday through Thursday, at (See SANCHEZ, Page 16)



Anguillans Shaken In U.S.

The New York Times News Service
PERTH AMBOY, N.J.—Austin E. Gumbs, one of about 6,700 Anguillans who live in the New Jersey-New York area and make up the largest overseas colony of the world's smallest republic, says he will never forget the moment when he learned the British were invading his homeland.

"We were having a college alumni meeting at my home when the call came through," he said.

There are 700 more Anguillans in the metropolitan area than in all Anguilla, and the colony is centered on Perth Amboy, an old industrial city of 40,000, 30 miles southwest of Times Square. However, the hearts of the emigres are back on the 35-square-mile Caribbean isle 150 miles east of Puerto Rico where British troops landed Wednesday to re-establish authority after almost 21 months of self-proclaimed Anguillian independence.

As told by Gumbs—the name is common among the islanders—the story of the overseas Anguillans here began around the turn of the century when a few, his father William among them, set out to find their fortunes in America. Somehow they got to Perth Amboy and worked in the copper refineries.

Word spread quickly back home. The wages were handsome by Anguillian standards and, sent back, became the main economic support for the island.

In recent years Anguilla was the last third of St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, an associated state in the British commonwealth. But the Anguillans said St. Kitts never gave Anguilla a fair share of British aid.

"I'll never understand why

the Queen was never too concerned with Anguilla," said James E. Hodge, a Perth Amboy policeman. "She never saw that the funds were given out properly. They shouldn't have gone through St. Kitts."

Twelve years ago Jeremiah Gumbs founded the Anguillian Improvement Association, which joined the Sons and Daughters of Anguilla and the Anguillian Benevolent Society of New York in working here to improve conditions back home, mostly for babies and retired people.

The association has sent clothes, typewriters, books, hospital beds and medicines to the island, where the only hospital's annual budget for medicine was \$100.

Earlier migrants worked in factories or swept out railroad cars, but many of the younger generations have taken up teaching.

Austin Gumbs is principal of Public School 2, a 237-pupil elementary school where the principal still rings the bell himself for recess. Franklin Gumbs, Austin's brother, is a physical-education instructor for the city. James Lake works for the state department of education. Winston Hughes is director of fine arts at nearby Edison high school. Herbert Richardson is director of music in Public School 8.

With no exceptions the islanders here voiced disapproval of the British invasion.

"This is just another example of a so-called world power taking a double standard of action," Austin Gumbs said. "It would appear that the British are more willing to attack a group of 6,000 blacks than the white Rhodesians."



British soldiers set up command post on Anguilla this week and use a lone palm tree as shade from the heat. (AP Photo)



A member of the British Red Devil regiment questions a group of islanders after the pre-dawn invasion Wednesday. The troops encountered no resistance. (AP Photo)

