

February 10th 1968

# THE BEACON

An Independent Anguilla News-Sheet.

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EDITORIAL

Cricket or "No Cricket"

In September, last year, the Selection Committee (The Island Council) decided that Anguilla should put up a side to represent the island. They approached two residents, invited them to a meeting, and by a unanimous vote asked them to represent the island.

After a cautious start, the partnership got into its stride, and is now coming out to bat for the twentieth time. Week after week, very often to an enthusiastic and delighted crowd, they played a fine game. (Here we cast modesty to the winds, "Not out" each week, and as often as not hitting everything for a six, sometimes getting a double century. It was great fun, and the Spectators enjoyed the play as much as the players. Whatever Anguillians may have thought of the partnership, whether others could have done better, they may not have realised that the play was being televised, and was being watched, not only in the Caribbean, but as far as the United States, and what is more important, even in Whitehall itself. This partnership not only put Anguilla on the map, but is keeping her there, and we know that we are being watched by our fans all over the world, excitedly waiting to see the next innings.

For five months with surprising modesty, the Selection Committee concealed the part that they had played in the matter, that it was their astuteness that had selected the partnership. They were content to sit in the Pavilion and applaud with the rest.

Recently the wicket has become difficult and sticky, there have been some maiden overs, and the crowd has become critical, some have even started to "boo", or even to suggest that the side be withdrawn. Moreover some of the Selection Committee themselves have not only wilfully concealed the fact that it was they who called the partnership into being, but by their public statements have even denied it. Fortunately, the Chairman of the Selection Committee, being a man of honour, and having a longer memory, has stated that it is his wish that the partnership should continue, and so the BEACON comes out to bat for the twentieth time.

We quote from the Editorial of the first issue on Sept. 27th 1967. "I have chosen the name BEACON because all the big ships passing to the north of Anguilla, are grateful to Anguilla for the Beacon at Sombbrero, to guide them to their destination. So too, many people from all over the world, are grateful to Anguilla for the stand she has made for freedom and democracy. Like the Beacon, may this paper be a help to guide Anguilla to pick out the good from the bad, so that they may have nothing less than the best. The observer on the top of a beacon is able to see dangers ahead which those on the ground can not yet see. Last week the BEACON stressed three points. (1) That the Council should be enlarged to nine members. (2) That elections should be held to this end. (3) That there was some urgency in the matter, so an early date was suggested.

It would appear that many people would like to see the Council enlarged, among them Mr Ronald Webster himself. No decision has been made whether there should be a general election or nominations, though we state again that it is the known wish of the British Government that elections should be held. The reasons for the urgency must be left over for another week.

Meanwhile there are two important matters bearing on the whole issue which should be considered now.

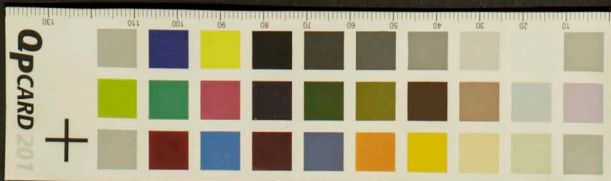
The BEACON calls upon the Chairman of the Council and the Director of the Civil Service (Mr John Webster) to deal with an unfortunate situation in the Council.

If we recall correctly, The Director of the Civil Service is there to keep the Civil Service separate from Politics, he has a seat on the council but no vote.

Yet we have Mr Campbell Fleming, Male Nurse, and Management Supervisor of the Hospital, a paid Civil Servant, who is also a nominated Member of the Council.

There is also Mr Wallace Key, the Director of Public Works, a paid Civil Servant also a Member of the Council. If the General Orders of the Civil Service are to be respected, you are referred to General Orders 126 - 131. Even though our Provisional Constitution, (which has not yet been ratified) says that a Civil Servant can stand for election, it has always been assumed that he would resign from his job, if he were elected. Further it would seem to be Mr Campbell Fleming who is determined that the public should not be informed of what the council is doing, till it is too late, and is putting obstacles in the way of the Beacon publishing minutes of the Council meetings, and treating us like children, without any brains, not mature enough to be taken into the Government's confidence, and to be given a chance to sympathise with them and to appreciate their difficulties and their problems.

In this the Freedom and the Democracy for which we have fought?



THE BRITISH OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT TEAM

On Tuesday Feb: 6th Six men arrived in Anguilla from Barbados. They are:-

- Mr J G Huddle, Financial Adviser and Leader of the Team.
- Mr K Hardaker, Engineer Adviser to the Team.
- Mr N Brandes, British Volunteer Engineer.
- Mr P O'Brien from U.N. Physical planning Office in Barbados.
- Mr S Crow, from Cable and Wireless Barbados.
- Mr C Emptage, of Emptage Electrical Co; Barbados.

We welcome them all to Anguilla. They are here to look at the projects that have already been started, such as The Airport Extension, and the Cold Storage Plant, and to get these two projects completed as soon as possible. It is hoped that work will begin on these without delay.

They have also come to look at the Island's other needs, and see what projects should be tackled, and in what order, such as Roads, Water, Harbours, and Schools. Etc.

They want to be able to plan a programme on these for the next twelve months.

They also hope to study the potentialities of the island with regard to Labour, Mechanical power, Trucking power, and so on. Mr Huddle told our reporter that he found the people of Anguilla well able to handle and carry through this work. He was also very highly impressed by the high standard of construction work already done by Anguillians on their island.

Mr O'Brien will advise the Government on the views of the United Nations with regard to town and country planning over a long period.

Mr Crow of Cable and Wireless will put into operation a project that was planned a long time ago. He would like to know how many people are interested in having a telephone in their house. They plan to install an Automatic Telephone system. There is already quite a lot of equipment for this project already in Anguilla: A new automatic exchange board should be here within a few months. The Work of Cable & Wireless is a separate project from the others.

Mr Emptage is here to look after the Cold Storage facilities. This project has nearly all its parts assembled, and he will see about getting the missing parts.

All these projects, and the money to pay for them will be under the direct responsibility of Mr Tony Lee, the British Senior Civil Servant in Anguilla. The Minister who is responsible for the Overseas Development Office, Mr Reg. Prentice paid the team a visit in Barbados, and is on his way to visit Tortola and Jamaica, before he returns to Britain.

ADVERTISEMENT. Gas Stoves & Gas Cylinders. Best Prices in the Caribbean. All sizes in stock Same old Price...yet. EXPAN. See Collins Hodge, our Man about Town.

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION. Owners and Drivers of Vehicles take notice that Licensing for all Motor Vehicles, and Bicycles, and also for Driving Licenses ends on Feb: 15th. After that date all persons found using unlicensed vehicles, or without driving licenses will be prosecuted by Law. Traffic Dept Anguilla.

Chicken Feed available at the Forest Warehouse for \$8.50 per bag of 100 lbs:-  
Come to-day and buy your fill. Thank You. R Webster

Report from the Medical Department. The East End Clinic will be opened to the Public on Monday, Feb: 12th on a Daily Basis. The hours will be 8.30-12.0 and 1.0 - 4.0  
Nurse Vida Lloyd will be the Nurse in Charge.

Monday. From 8.30am Child Welfare Clinic for Welches, Island Harbour to White Hill only.  
This is to enable parents to get back home earlier.

Tuesday. Ante-Natal Clinic as usual, and children must see the Doctor.

Wednesday Child Welfare Clinic for Mt Fortune to Deep Waters, and other areas that usually attend the East End Clinic.

Thursday Todlers Clinic. Friday Home Visiting.

Saturday Clerical work. This schedule for first week, and then alternate weeks.  
Second Week schedule.

Monday & Saturday Treatments. Tuesday & Friday Home Visitation.

Wednesday & Thursday School Visitation and Treatment of School Children.

Campbell Fleming.  
CORRESPONDENCE. I am very much concerned over Anguilla's grave situation. Anguilla presently represents a ship that is manned by a Captain and Crew who differ in their opinion. The Captain has orders to take his ship to a certain country, but each or some of the sailors have their own destination in mind. The Captain may not know this, therefore a few unpleasant things may happen. The Captain may be put in chains, or he may be held up with a gun. Most likely he may be thrown overboard. The Ship can then be easily scuttled by the majority of the crew, and be taken to their destination. Captain and Crew, be careful, and keep your ship on its right course. Allan H. Richardson.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING at St Augustine's Church East End on Sunday Feb 11th.  
7.15 am and 5.0 pm. All are invited to join in

