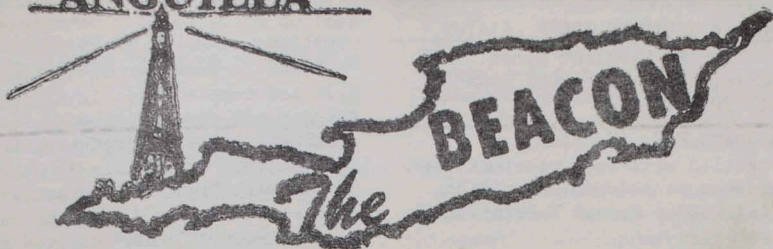


ANGUILLA



NO. 103

Saturday October 4th, 1969.

Price 10¢

COMMISSIONER RETURNS

H.M. Commissioner Mr. Thompson and his wife, returned to Anguilla on Wednesday afternoon.

Mr. Thompson arrived at Wall Blake airport on R.A.F. after spending a month leave in England. He left here on August 30th to go to London for consultation with the foreign office and leave to pack his things to return to Anguilla with his wife.

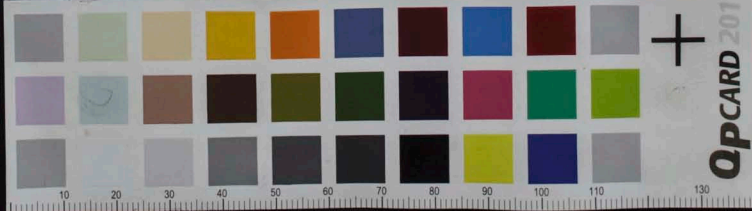
He was met on arrival by Mr. Posnett, who was acting Commissioner in his absence, also on hand to meet the Commissioner was Col. Norrie Giles commander of H.M. Forces Anguilla, who will be leaving for England shortly, Mr. Ray Anning, Chief of Police, members of H.M. Commission in Anguilla, and some members of the Anguilla Council, led by Mr. Ronald Webster.

Mr. Richard Posnett, left Anguilla for New York on Thursday afternoon to resume his duties as 1st secretary to Lord Caradon, head of U.K. Mission to the United Nations. He is accompanied by his wife Shirley, who spent one week in Anguilla.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson travelled from England Via New York where he conferred with Lord Caradon.

WEBSTER DENIES STATEMENT

On the front page of the HOME JOURNAL of St. Thomas on September 30th, a report by Margaret Hyman, writing for U.P.I., headlined "ANGUILLA RENEWING INDEP. STATUS", quoted Mr. Ronald Webster of Anguilla as saying "that he expected his 35 square mile Caribbean island to revive its defunct constitution, making Anguilla an independent republic" "very soon". In an interview with Mr. Webster, he denied making that statement, and added that he will make his comment after reading the article. "I had not seen the article before", he said. The Barbados Advocate of Sept. 26th., carried the story with a picture of Mr. Webster on the front page. The report went on to say that Mr. Webster said, "The Republic constitution was still valid", and would undergo revision but its basic nature would remain the same. Interviewing Mr. Webster later, after he read the article, he admitted saying to the reporter of the article "that he holds the republic constitution valid, but again denied saying that, "Anguilla would revive its republic status before the end of this year. (See WEBSTER page 5).



ANGUILLA REVIVING INDEP. STATUS.

By Margaret Hyman.

(Reprinted from The HOME JOURNAL, Sept. 30th 1969.)

San Juan, P.R. (U.P.I.)-

Anguilla will soon reassert her status as an independent nation, Island Leader Ronald Webster said recently.

Webster told United Press International during stop over here that he expected his 35-square mile Caribbean Island to revive its defunct constitution, making Anguilla an independent republic, "very soon". He indicated the move would be made before the end of the year.

Webster said the Constitution which he considers still valid, would undergo revisions but its basic nature would remain the same.

The move, apparently, would put the island's 6,000 people back in the position they held before March 15, when British paratroopers and London policemen landed to "restore constitutional government".

Two years earlier the Anguillans had rebelled against the Central government of the Associated State of St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla.

While Webster said he had no objection to the proposed Caribbean Commission, which is to investigate and make recommendations on the Anguilla problem, his people do not intend to wait for the outcome of that investigation.

"We are going to go ahead with our plans. If the Commission comes up with something good, we will accept it. If not, we will reject it. But we are not going to be put in a position where we have nothing" Webster said.

The Commission, which is to be

made up of recognised Commonwealth Caribbean leaders, is scheduled to be named in December and probably will not complete its investigation for several months thereafter.

Webster, who arrived here Wednesday from New York, said he had conferred with Britain's permanent representative to the United Nations, Lord Caradon. Caradon visited Anguilla twice after the British invasion in an effort to mediate differences between Webster and the British-appointed Commissioner to the island.

Webster said Caradon asked him to give the Commission a chance.

"I told him we would not oppose the Commission, but it has nothing to do with us. We are not going to put our fate in anyone's hands. I told him we don't trust Britain any more", Webster said.

Asked if he would continue insisting upon a constitution for Anguilla before the first of the year, Webster said, "We have a constitution. It was enacted before the British invaded and, as far as we are concerned, it is legal".

He was referring to the constitution declaring Anguilla an independent republic.

"The only thing is that we were prevented from holding elections", he added. Webster had scheduled national elections under the new constitution when the British intervened.

Webster admitted that, from the British point of view, the constitution making Anguilla part of the St. Kitts-Nevis Associated state, is the only valid constitution in existence. "We don't recognize their constitution, and they don't recognize ours", Webster said. (SEE ANGUILLA page 3)



ANGUILLA REVIVING INDEP. STATUS
(Continued from page 2)

Asked about the new British-appointed Commissioner, W.H. Thompson, Webster said he thought Thompson appreciated Anguilla's position, but "his hands are tied".

He has a legal mind, and won't support anything that strikes him as illegal from the British point of view", Webster said.

Thompson replaced John A. Cumber as Commissioner several weeks ago.

Webster had little to say about Britain's development program on Anguilla. He said work had not yet begun on a deep water pier and airport improvements-two of the major projects announced by the 160 Royal Engineers still occupying the island.

Engineers improved about two miles of road, Webster said, adding that he felt the program was essentially designed to impress the world with Britain's magnanimity to Anguilla.

Webster expressed concern for reports published recently that he had reversed his position by now wishing to remain in the British Commonwealth.

He pointed out that ever since Anguilla declared its independence from St. Kitts two and a half years ago, he had sought a status for the island that would keep it within the Commonwealth.

"It was only when Britain rejected us several times that, in desperation we declared an independent republic", Webster said.

He said he would still prefer to keep his island in association with Britain, if a means could be

found consistent with Anguilla's independence from St. Kitts.

Webster also objected to published accounts that referred to him as the "self-styled president" of Anguilla.

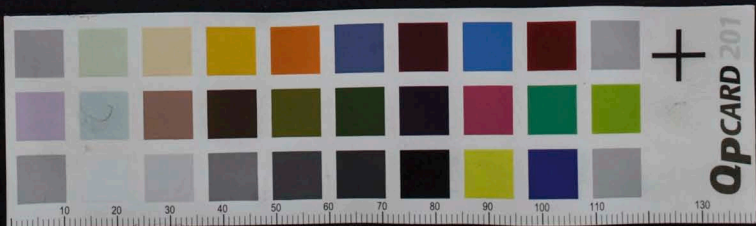
He explained that he had been elected president of the provisional government which ruled the island after the rebellion and that, at the time the republic was promulgated, he became acting president pending the elections which were never held. From Britain's point of view, Webster is merely one of the members of an advisory committee to Commissioner Thompson.

Webster's stop in Puerto Rico on his way back to Anguilla was prompted by the illness of his eight-year-old daughter, Paulona, who was hospitalized in San Juan. Webster, his wife and Paulona returned to Anguilla Thursday afternoon.

BRADSHAW'S CATERPILLARS

Bradshaw's heavy equipment has eventually left Anguilla. The Inauguration Wave loaded them on Saturday and sailed for St. Kitts the same night. The eight pieces of equipment has caused much speculation in the past, and has been sitting on the Road Pond side, for weeks waiting the arrival of the ship to take them back to, St. Kitts.

At first the ship sprung a leak and had to cancel her call here for the equipment. Then it was thought that they had to be parachuted into St. Kitts by R.A.F. Hercules, if Bradshaw wanted them in a hurry. But apparently this system was not feasible.



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EDITORIAL:

Anguillans were probably stunned by the statement reportedly made by Mr. Ronald Webster to the U.P.I. in Puerto Rico last week. Mr. Webster has since denied that he said Anguilla would revive its republic constitution before the end of the year, but added that he did say "that the republic constitution was still valid on the island as far as he is concerned".

This seems to be a conflicting story, and one cannot fully understand exactly what Mr. Webster means when he says that the republic constitution is still in existence on the island, if it is meant that the document can still be found on the island, that we do believe, because Holcomb brought in plenty of supplies. But if it is meant that it is still the supreme law of the land, then we are to think again.

Is this a statement to please the republic minded people on the outside? We can well remember Holcomb's statement, that he will be waiting to return to Anguilla when the British leave. Soon after that he was over in St. Maarten, and reportedly consulted with Mr. Webster who was also in St. Maarten at the time. The same week Mr. Webster ann-

ounced that all the British will leave the island within five days

Holcomb arrived in St. Maarten again last week. We are inclined to believe our previous assumption, that it is some sinister force behind the republic move, and the whole matter may be more serious than we think. Whether Mr. Webster did or did not make the statement which purports to mean that he will be declaring war on Britain before the end of the year, it surely will not be any credit to his name in the eyes of the thinking public, he should see to it that the statement be retracted.

ANGUILLAN AWARDED STATE SCHOLARSHIP:

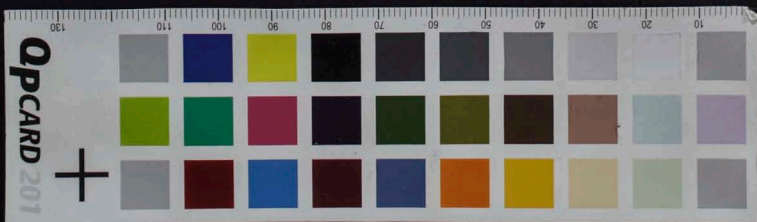
News has been received that Fabian Marcel Fahie second son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Fahie of the Forest Anguilla, has been awarded the State Scholarship for 1969.

The award of this scholarship is based on the Cambridge G.C.E. results at advanced level.

In the results for 1969, Marcel, as he is known to most Anguillans, gained, passes in History, Geography and Economics. He formerly held a pass in Latin. He showed great promise from the time he entered the Valley Secondary School, and at the age of eleven plus, gained four passes at ordinary level.

Later he entered the Grammar School in St. Kitts (now the Basse-terre High School) on a bursary. Throughout his school career, he maintained a high standard of performance in his work and the award of this Scholarship is the result of hard work and unstinting effort on his part.

He intends to take his first degree in Economics at the University (Continued on page 5).



PLUMSOCK INITIATES PREVENTURE DENTAL PROGRAMME FOR ANGUILLA'S CHILDREN.

All Anguillans know the serious problem that exists concerning the dental health of their children. Tooth decay is running rampant in the mouths of most every child on the island! The result is pain and discomfort from these decayed teeth. The child then needs the service of a dentist and everyone knows how scarce a dentist has been on Anguilla.

Well, the Plumsock Fund backed by Mr. Herbert Lutz, who also gave to the people of Anguilla the Mobile Clinic, is sponsoring a dental health program for the school children of Anguilla. This program will be conducted in the schools under the supervision of Dr. Barry Loughner, who arrived here from New York City specifically for this program. This is how it works: fluoride, a proven agent for the prevention of Tooth decay, has been put into a toothpaste. The classroom makes an ideal unit for conducting this program because the children apply the special fluoride toothpaste themselves with instructions from Dr. Loughner and under the watchful eye of the teachers. Each child is given a toothbrush that he uses to apply the toothpaste. The Toothbrush is then given to the child to be used at home.

It has been found that conducting the program in this simple manner will result in helping each child to be aware of the importance of brushing his teeth because he sees all the other children doing the same thing! In fact, several other benefits from this program,

aside from the well substantiated reductions in dental decay, has been apparent. Because this program involves health personnel, school administrators and teachers, plus the children, many people benefit from the total dental health experience in the community. Also, the toothbrushing instructions has been especially well received and it very much appears that few children or adults actually understand prior to this instruction how to properly brush their teeth. All in all, it may be said that this Plumsock program provides excellent opportunities for the Anguillian community to become dynamically involved in a program of dental health for its citizens.

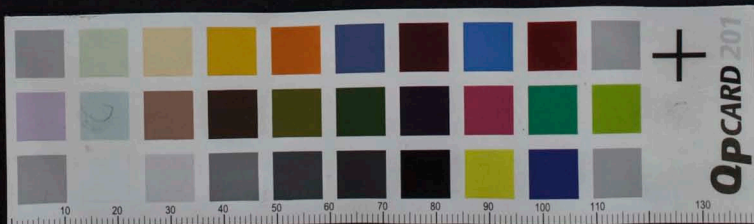
WEBSTER DENIES STATEMENT: (Continued from page 1).

According to the report Mr. Webster made the statement on his return from the U.S. on Thursday 25th Sept. (SEE STORY ON PAGE 2).

SCHOLARSHIP: (Continued from page 4).

of the West Indies at Mona, Jamaica, after which he intends to pursue further studies.

Marcel is one of the four students from Anguilla who qualified for entrance to the U.W.I. on scholarships awarded to Anguillans by the British Dev. Division in Barbados. We are told that Marcel has accepted the "State" Scholarship in preference to the one from British Dev. Overseas Division. We wish Mr. Fahie continued success in his studies.



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ANGUILLA BRANCH THE VALLEY.

THE METHODIST YOUTH CHOIR:

The Methodist Youth Choir, under the capable direction of Mr. Bynoe, presented a repeat concert Friday 26th Sept., at the Valley Secondary school. The well (Cont'd on page 7)

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MESSAGE from H.M. COMMISSIONER W.H. THOMPSON on RETURN from LEAVE as Broadcast by Radio Anguilla on 2nd. October, 1969.

Hello! It's good to be back again in Anguilla and as you all know I returned yesterday, this time with my wife and we look forward now to settling down at Blowing Point in our new home. I have had a very good leave in England, but it wasn't all leave for I spent a lot of time at the Foreign Office discussing Anguilla's problems particularly the programme of Britain aid for Anguilla. I spent a lot of time with senior officials at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and I was also able to put directly to the Minister of State for Caribbean Affairs an up-to-date report on matters and feelings and opinions here.

I come back strengthened for I am fully aware and Britain is fully aware of the problems facing all of us, facing you and facing me, the problems connected with the development, constitutional and economic progress of Anguilla. I shall have a lot to talk about to members of the Anguilla Council in the days to come. I shall need a lot of their co-operation, their continuing co-operation which they've always given me and I am sure that before very long we shall have much to be satisfied about.

Much seems to have happened here in Anguilla since I left, the Primary School - I see the work has begun on the pier at Sandy Ground and I'm particularly happy to know that this radio station - Radio Anguilla - has extended its service and added to your entertainment, I hope, educa-

tion, and certainly, providing more information to the listening public.

My wife asks me to say how happy she is to be here, how delighted she is with all she has seen, and the cheerful smiles that have greeted her. Indeed, I am grateful too for the happy way in which you have welcomed me back.

You will hear about the future of Anguilla before very long. You will hear more about next year's aid contribution from Britain.

I cannot yet give you the details publicly, for much remains to be sorted out and made final before we can make a formal report to the public. But I am happy in the knowledge that the immediate period facing us promises to be a productive one.

Once again, I'm awfully glad and happy to be back.

The Methodist Youth (Cont'd from P.7)

Anguilla may justly proud of the more than thirty young people who give so generously of their time and talent to a choral group which would be welcomed and respected anywhere.

The evening however was marred by the hooliganism of loafers lounging outside and in the rear of the auditorium, causing a roar of constant noise that drowned out most of the concert. The chorus and soloists deserve great credit for their poise and forbearance as they continued their parts in spite of incredible rudeness, indecencies and uproar. The Reverend Mr. White requested order but was ignored.

