

ANGUILLA

Col. Henry Howard
C/O Mr. Bill Bailey
P.O. Box 1279
St. Thomas
U.S.V.I.



Vol. 4, No. 13

SATURDAY JANUARY 23rd., 1971

Price 10c

MINISTER OF STATE GODBER HAS BUSY PROGRAMME DURING VISIT TO ANGUILLA

The Rt. Hon. Joseph Godber, M.P. Minister of State who will arrive from the British Virgin Islands at 5 p.m. Monday afternoon - will have a busy programme in Anguilla, the highlight of which will be his meeting with the Anguilla Council.

The Minister will be greeted by a guard of honour at Wall Blakw Airport when he arrives on Monday afternoon, and during the evening he will have meetings with H.M. Commissioner, Mr. W.H. Thompson and Mr. Ronald Webster.

On Tuesday morning Mr. Godber will meet the Anguilla Council and during the evening will visit the Army Sergeants' Mess and later dine with officers of Force Anguilla and the A.P.U. He is scheduled to visit the police Club on Wednesday and to be guest of honour at a buffet luncheon arranged by H.M. Commissioner and Mrs. Thompson for members of the Anguilla Council.

The Minister is expected to leave on Wednesday afternoon.

U.W.I. EDUCATION INSTITUTE MEMBER TO MAKE REGULAR VISITS:

Miss Gwen Capel, of the University of the West Indies Institute of Education in Antigua arrived in Anguilla on Thursday for a short introductory visit. Miss Capel has succeeded Miss Vivien Daniels at the Antigua Institute of Education and will be making (Cont'd on page 6)

WALTER HODGE TAKES OVER TASK OF REORGANISING CUSTOMS & EXCISE DEPT.

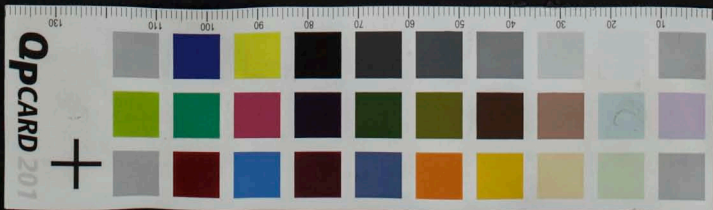
Mr. Walter Hodge the Anguilla Treasurer, has accepted the task of reorganising and improving the operation of the Customs and Excise Department which has recently been separated from the Treasury.

Mr. Hodge has stated that one of his prime tasks will be to improve the general operation of Customs and excise, simplify the documentation and laying the foundation for a strong Department which will provide a proper revenue collection contributing to the future of Anguilla.

Mr. Hodge has undertaken his new task at the request of H.M. Commissioner and the Anguilla Council. During his absence from the Treasury financial matters will be handled by Rev. C.L. Carty, who was appointed temporary Assistant Treasurer last week. Mr. Hodge was in charge of the combined Treasury and Customs Department since June 1967 when Anguilla declared secession from St. Kitts. At the same time Mr. Hodge was Chairman of the 15-man Peace-Keeping Committee.

ISLAND HARBOUR SCHOOL FLOWN IN BY HERCULES

A Hercules, 4 engined aircraft of the R.A.F. Transport Command arrived at Wallblake Airport on Thursday morning carrying, almost literally, a school for Anguilla, which had been flown on a special flight from England. Sixteen thousand of wall sec-



LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Dear Mr. Editor,

You were kind enough to publish at my request a copy of a letter dated 27th October 1970 which I addressed to H.M. Commissioner Anguilla on the matter of a road and my paternal home at Island Harbour;

I would again be most grateful if you would publish the text of the reply dated 4th November, 1970 from the Commissioner's to same, which, incidentally, I only recently saw and at that a photostatic copy of the original which I have not yet received.

Text of letter as attached

" H.M. Commissioner's Office,
Anguilla
4th November, 1970.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter of 27 October about the road at Island Harbour.

It is a practice that I do not approve, nor do the Royal Engineers undertake, any development work which is the subject of dispute or which might lead to any legal action against Her Majesty's Government.

It is strictly a matter for the Anguillians themselves as to whether they wish any area, or item, to be developed.

Consequently I have given instructions that when the road to Island Harbour reaches your property work will be stopped. I have to decide whether it will be possible to undertake further works beyond the next extent of your boundary.

I have noted your point that the present road catered to horse and carriage for over the last 60 years, but I must also point out it would be a pity if the opportunity was not taken to now produce the best possible alignment. However, as we shall not now be doing the road opposite your property the old

alignment will remain."

Yours faithfully,

(W.H. Thompson)
H.M. Commissioner.

Thank you Mr. Editor for your early action, I shall very shortly be submitting to you my comments on the above reply and on developments emanating from this issue.

Yours sincerely,
J. Vanier Hodge.

I promised that I would comment on the Commissioner's reply dated 4th November, 1970, on the matter of the road at Island Harbour, but before I do, it would perhaps be well if I place on record some facts of this road and area for the benefit of those who are now unaware of them and perhaps the archives.

Prior to the year 1937, and for how long I am not aware, the public road to Island Harbour came to a dead end at my Grandmother's home then known as "The Yard" in Island Harbour.

I well recall my childhood days when that road hummed with horse and carriage, trap, extension and boasted more such traffic than any other village in Anguilla. No livery adorned the riders of cart and donkey or the cow-boys of the wagon train of C. Rey & Co. drawn by one, two and sometimes three pairs of yoked oxen which trundled through this street, in Western style and fashion, collecting seed cotton piled high in bags to be sold and ginned at the ginmery at the "Factory". It was not unusual though to see the gentry of that age and area bedecked in carriages or on horse back in top hat, morning coat, striped pants and spats with crop and riding gear the present era has not known. But then came the age of pedal bicycle and motor car, and alas, all that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave await alike the inevitable hour - the paths of glory lead but (cont'd on page 3)

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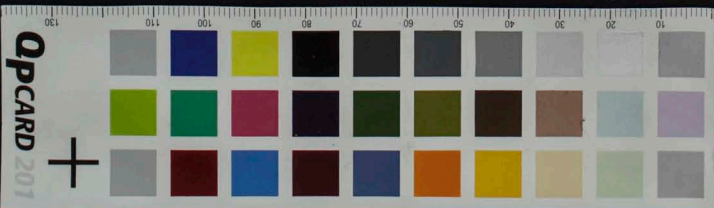
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Remember we offer FREE transportation to any point on the island. See our merchandise, compare our prices, then you WILL buy from us.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

(cont'd from page 2)

to the grave.

At that time too, there was the outline of a public road which ran through Stony Ground, King Payne Step, Bad Cocks, Chalvilles Bottom and ended in a cul-de-sac at Whelches Bottom. Access between Whelches and Island Harbour was through a bush foot path which allowed single file passage to pedestrians and other animals only. People who lived on "The Hill" had to tolerate this kind of access to their residences for most of their lives.

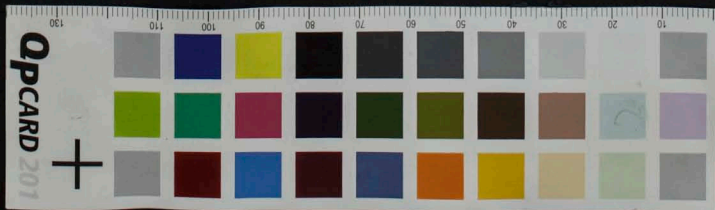
I do not wish to lay claim to any credit for bridging the gap between Island Harbour and Whelches by a public motor way (all due respect to the motor ways that I have since travelled on) but it was during my first spell of public service as a Civil Servant of the Leeward Islands Government that I initiated action on the link up of these two points. Thanks to Dr. Alfred

MacDonald who was then Doctor and Magistrate of Anguilla, Mr. Herbert Boon who was then Treasurer and later Administrator of St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla and Mr. D.R. Steward, the Administrator who built up a substantial surplus and reserve fund for the then Presidency of St. Kitts - Nevis - Anguilla, work was started on the road between Island Harbour and Welches. The late Joseph Benjamin Hodge of Island Harbour (my father) was responsible for building the brand new road from Island Harbour to Welches while the late Arthur William Hodge of Chalvilles was put in charge of reconditioning the road through Bad Cocks and King Payne Step. I say here with no little sense of nationalism that my father donated several areas of his own lands along the route of the road from Island Harbour to Welches free of cost and so did every other individual from Island Harbour over which the road passed.

It was my privilege to drive the first motor car over the circular road from Island Harbour to Welches, Chalvilles Bottom, Bad Cocks, King Payne Step, Stony Ground to the Mahogany Tree and thence back to Island Harbour via the Quarter, Farrington, Sandy Hill, Mount Fortuna and White Hill. The cost of this link-up road exceeded the estimated provision by several times over but we were given the green light to pursue it for many reasons; one was to provide employment to the Islanders at a time of acute depression, another for the long term national economic effect which this road would have on the island.

Mr. Editor, in my next issue I shall deal specifically with Mr. Commissioner's reply to my letter of the above date.

J. Vanier Hodge
P.O. Box 486, St. John's,
Antigua.



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EDITORIAL:

FREEDOM MUST BE PAID FOR

Next week the Minister of State Mr. Godber, again visits Anguilla, and from the talks and discussions to be held we would hope that a formula would emerge which would mean a happy ending to our political problems with St. Kitts and a happy and hopefully prosperous future for Anguilla.

We hope that next week's meetings will be another step in Anguilla's progress toward freedom, one that will let us have a meaningful administration. But freedom is one thing, and paying for it is another. In the island many people are evading paying Customs Duties, indulging in smuggling which denies Anguilla the revenue it needs, and tax evasion is rife.

If we are to achieve the true Independence for our island, then we are to be financially independent. It is a misnomer to believe that we are collecting all the revenue due to the Treasury.

Imposition of increase ^{on} taxes by the Anguilla Council has met with criticism by some people, not ^{that} they do not want to pay taxes, but it is common knowledge that notable persons in the community themselves are evading taxes.

This is in itself encouraging others to follow suit. Some of those who keep crying for freedom should pay their just debts and taxes, so that the island can be in a better financial position.

It is true that we are due financial help from Britain, as part

of the 300 years of neglect, but if we are to eventually achieve practical independence, we must be made to pay our own way. For who pays the bills, calls the tune.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT NOTICE:

Persons desirous of sitting for the University of London G.C.E. Examination June 1971 are notified that the closing date for entry is FEBRUARY 5th, 1971.

(1-2)

POLICE REPORT:- MAN ARRESTED FOR DAMAGING R.A.F. EQUIPMENT.

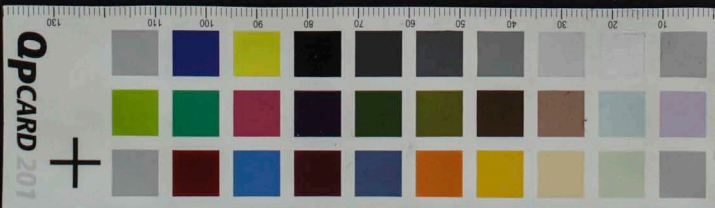
On Wednesday this week Kenneth Rogers about 28 years, of the Farrington was arrested for willfully discharging a small fire extinguisher located at the airstrip for use in case of fire emergency, and which was the property of the R.A.F.

The man was seen to lift the release handle of the fire extinguisher causing the gas to escape and when apprehended he arranged to make restitution of the cost of re-servicing the extinguisher which amounted to \$250.00 about \$50.00 the police report said.

Mr. Rogers told The Beacon that he did not "wilfully" discharge the fire extinguisher. He claimed that John Rogers, James Thomas and himself were standing next to the extinguisher on a cart kept at the airstrip where he accidentally touched a lever, causing the foam to go off. (It is no way of stopping it after the seal has been broken).

Rogers said that he was arrested but later released after a delegation saw the Commissioner and a sum of \$250.00 E.C. paid as restitution for the damages.

Rogers who carries a French passport said that when in custody "he was asked by an officer whether he was a supporter of Mr. Webster or Mr. Bradshaw, which he thought (Cont'd on back page)



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SCHOOL FLOWN IN

(cont'd from Page 1)

woodwork and the roofing parts and all other flat areas for the construction of a pre-fabricated school at Island Harbour comprised the cargo of this special R.A.F. flight, although it was believed that special street lighting florescent tubes for Anguilla main streets were also among the Hercules cargo.

Foundations have been prepared and steel frames erected, and now that the school building itself has arrived the Royal Engineers will begin immediately to complete the erection of the Island Harbour school, part of the British Development scheme.

**NEW SERIES OF DRAMATIC PLAYS
"AFRICAN THEATRE" FOR RADIO
ANGUILLA**

Some time ago the BBC commissioned a number of world known African authors to write a series of 26 half-hour plays for the BBC. Under the general title "African Theatre" these dramatic programmes have favour in many parts of the world.

Recordings of these programmes have been obtained by Radio Anguilla, it was announced this week, and they will be scheduled weekly at 8.30 to 9.00 p.m. on Mondays commencing 25th January. The authors of these plays are from many African countries including Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Cameroun and such well known writers as Wole Soyinka, Obi Egbuna, Cyprien Ekwensi, Harry Bell, Femi Euba, Tom Omario etc. "African Theatre" is the first series of plays to be scheduled by Radio Anguilla and it is hoped that it will add an even wider variety of education and entertainment for island listeners.

VEHICLE OVERTURNS ON QUARTER ROAD

No one was seriously injured and only slight damage sustained by one vehicle when motor car, No. A.434 owned and driven by Mr. Kenneth Harrigan of East End overturned shortly after 8.0'clock on Monday morning, on the Quarter road.

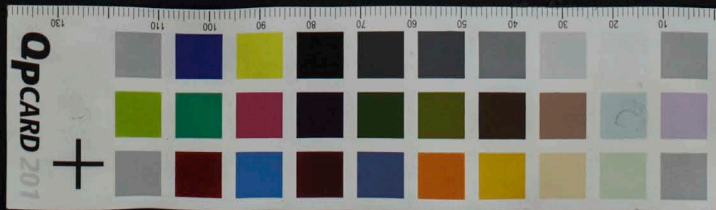
The accident occurred when Mr. Harrigan was overtaking another vehicle, No. A243 owned and driven by Miss Majorie Woods of the Quarter. Mr. Harrigan's car turned over on the main road. The wind shield was broken, with other slight damages. The driver and a passenger, Mr. Albert Gumbs of Pond Site sustained only slight bruise

REPRINT OF WOODING REPORT

(cont'd from last week)

81. Because of these events another conference was called in Barbados on 12 August, 1967, "to iron out certain snags in the plan to send a peace-keeping Force to Anguilla". But neither the British Government nor the Government of St. Kitts, Nevis and Anguilla was invited to it. Nor was any representative from Anguilla. The conference resolved that two officials who had participated in the joint mission, namely Mr. James Lloyd and Mr. Oliver Browne of Barbados, should go again to Anguilla to explain the terms of the agreement of 31 July, and thus, as was hoped, secure their acceptance. They visited Anguilla on 14 August. But they appear to be discomfited by a large and noisy crowd. They reported on their return that the Anguillians wholly repudiated the agreement, including the proposal to send a peace-keeping team to the island.

82. A third meeting of Ministers was convened in Jamaica on 17 August, 1967 Lord Sheperd attended, representing the British Government, but again the Government of St. Kitts, Nevis and Anguilla was not invited. However, the Premier despatched a telegram to Lord Sheperd (cont'd on page 8)



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X 1505 KH. 1505 KH. X

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X Commencing on Monday evening 25th, January at X

X 8.30 to 9 p.m. Radio Anguilla offers a new series X

X of half-hour radio dramatizations under the general X

X title. X

X AFRICAN THEATRE X

X 25 January: "Until Further Notice" Oyono-Mbia (Camerouns) X

X 1 February: "Twika Buys a Wife" by Ann Palmer (Kenya) X

X 8 February: "Divinity" by Obi Eguna (Nigeria) X

X 15 February: "Lion & the Jewel" Wole Soyinka (Nigeria) X

X 22 February: "Devil in the Mixer" Kudlip Sondhi (Kenya) X

X 1 March : "Mango Blood" by Cameron Duodo (Ghana) X

X 3 March : "Wind vs Polygamy" by Obi Egbuna (Nigeria) X

X 15 March : "Blind Cyclos" by Ime Ikkiddsh (Nigeria) X

X 22 March : "Yon Kon" by Pat Maddy (Sierre Leone) X

X 29 March : "Loke Town" by Cyprian Ekwensi (Nigeria) X

X 5 April : "Shadow of an Eagle" Bill Ma'Hall (Ghana) X

X 12 April : "Third Party Insurance" P. Kinyanjui (Kenya) X

X & "The Trick" by Erisa Kironde (Uganda) X

X 19 April : "Tortoise" by Femi Euba (Nigeria) X

X 26 April : "The Exodus" by Tom Omara (Kenya) X

X and 12 other half-hour plays X

X
X These dramatic presentations, written by X

X African authors were recorded in London by BBC. X

X Now heard on Radio Anguilla Mondays 8.30 pm X

X
X Music, News, Information, Education & Entertainment X

X For all Anquillans from X

X R-A-D-I-O A-N-G-U-I-L-L-A X

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U.W. MEMBER TO VISIT: (Cont'd

from page 1)

regular visits to Anguilla during

the present academic year, to super-

vide the In-Service Training Course

for Primary School teachers and

advise on educational problems.

On Thursday Miss Capel called on

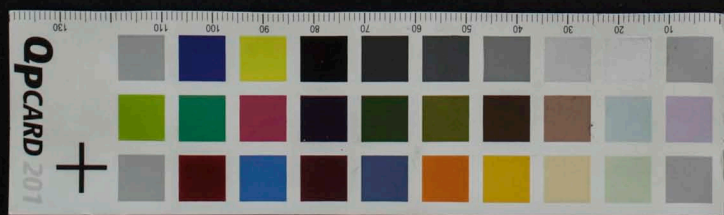
H.M. Commissioner and later met the

teachers who are taking the In-Ser-

vice Course. Miss Capel has had

wide experience in teaching and educational administration, and before she came to the West Indies was, for some years, Education Officer in Malawi.

NEED AN ELECTRICIAN?????
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REPRINT OF WOODING REPORT

(cont'd from page 5)

in Jamaica reiterating his Government's intention to abide by the Barbados Agreement and to fulfil its obligations.

83. The Jamaica Conference achieved nothing. No agreement was reached except that the several Governments should continue consultations on the matters in issue.

84. In keeping in his undertaking, the Premier of St. Kitts, Nevis and Anguilla secured the enactment of a new Local Government Act, No. 20 of 1971. This Act, passed by the House of Assembly on 4 November, 1967, extended the functions, powers and authorities of the Island Councils substantially, though not in every respect in accordance with the recommendations of the Barbados Conference. The Act is still in force.

First Anguilla elections
85. Meanwhile the Anguilla Council announced that elections would be held on 25 October. Nomination day was 17 October and as none of the five candidates was opposed they were on that day declared to be duly elected. They were Collins Hodge, Wallace Rey, Ronald Webster, Hugo Rey and John Hodge.

Visit of Parliamentary Delegation
86. In September 1967 the Premier and the Minister of Education, Health and Welfare (Mr. Bryant) visited London and New York to address Anguillians living in those two cities. During the course of this visit the Premier proposed to the Commonwealth Office that the British Government should send a parliamentary delegation to the State to study and recommend a solution for the crisis. The delegation comprised Mr. Nigel Fisher, Secretary in the old Colonial Office, and Mr. Donald Chapman, the Labour Minister for Northfield (Birmingham). Both had considerable West Indian associations and experience. (cont'd next week)

SPORTS NEWS:ANGUILLA CRICKET TEAM TO TOUR TORTOLA

A selected team from Anguillan cricketers is expected to fly to Tortola on Friday next to engage in a cricket match there.

The team is returning a visit made recently by the Tortola Cricket team, which ended in a draw. The match is expected to last two days.

The Anguilla team will be selected next week and flown to Tortola by Valley Air Service returning on January 31st. The matches are expected to be played on the 30th and 31st. January.

MAN ARRESTED: (Cont'd from page 4)

had nothing to do with the incident".

He said he was also told that he was a foreigner. His passport is being held by the Police.

Both John Rogers and James Thomas who were present when the incident occurred claimed that it was an accident, and added that "it could have happened to either of them standing there who had no idea it could go off so easily".

Rogers who was born in St. Maarten by Anguillan parents, has been a resident on the island since the age of 7 months.

REV. LEONARD CARTY APPOINTED MEMBER OF BROADCASTING COMMITTEE:

The Rev. Leonard Carty, M.B.E., has been appointed a member of the Anguilla Broadcasting Committee effective immediately, following the meeting of the Anguilla Council. Rev. Carty will replace Rev. Sean Bennett who served the Anguilla Broadcasting Committee since its inception in 1969 and who left the island last year.

The next meeting of the Anguilla Broadcasting Committee will be held at Radio Anguilla at 330 pm. on February 1st.

