

# Anguilla's Occupation By Britain

AT THE END of last month the people of this State who are tired of tension and unnecessary conflict were relaxed and happy at the news of the agreement arrived at between Anguilla and Britain because of the visit of Lord Caradon. It was thus with disgust that we read the Government's mouthpiece on Saturday last boasting of the fact that Britain had tricked Anguilla by imposing martial law there in clear breach of the agreement.

For a Government here to boast that Britain was negotiating while concealing the fact of martial law regulations already enacted is disgraceful.

However, the matter has not rested where the St. Kitts government thought it would. The Anguillians have once more moved in a rapid and confident fashion to call back Lord Caradon to Anguilla. They have physically resisted the deportation of Dr. Spector, and have insisted that small as they are, they will force Britain to honour their Agreement.

Meanwhile the St. Kitts Radio Station is giving out information about guns hidden in the sea and in latrines. One wonders which members or officers of Government saw the guns in the places mentioned. We will not be surprised if we now hear about the discovery of weapons to justify the diabolical plot of some people to dominate Anguilla and to result in the rape of small and peaceful God-fearing Caribbean people by a large, un-Christian white nation.

## Dr. Herbert: New Public Meetings Law more ridiculous and unconstitutional

The new Public Meetings and Processions Act 1969, passed at the House of Assembly on 15 March, is more ridiculous and more unconstitutional than the former act which was introduced on 23 February, 1967, four days before Statehood, Dr. W. V. Herbert says.

Dr. William Herbert, Leader of the Opposition People's Action Movement, addressed a meeting, convened at short notice at PAM's headquarters on Wednesday night.

He claimed that a certain section of the law is aimed particularly at him, as organiser of meetings or processions held by his party.

Clause 4 (9) to which he referred states that "any person who organises or attempts to organise or incites any person to organise or take part in any public procession contrary to the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence against

this Act and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months."

Dr. Herbert said that the law will meet the fate of its predecessor. It will likewise (be torn up.)

The previous law, Public Meetings and Processions (Amendment) Act 1967 contravened Sections 10 and 11 of the Constitution of this State, according to the ruling of the trial judge when the case was tested by Dr. Her-

bert in the High Court here.

Mr. Richard Caines said that the law was passed "specifically to limit the activities of the People's Action Movement" because PAM points out the wrongs in the State.

Analysing the Anguilla situation, Mr. Michael Powell disclosed that there were reports of serious rape cases in Anguilla since the arrival of the British paratroopers and that the young victims have had to be hospitalised.

He said one Anguillan had been detained and no one has been permitted to see him, but residents of the area report that they have heard the man screaming on more than one

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## Life With A Halo

At the Education Centre last Tuesday night, a large audience witnessed the performance of a play entitled "Life with a Halo" based on the life of the assassinated Negro Civil Rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King. It was written, produced and directed by Mr Eustace Esdaile, a graduate teacher of English at the Basseterre High School.

The play which was under the auspices of the Student Cultured Society of the Basseterre High School, was musical, semi-religious and was meant to reflect the personalities, beliefs and achievements all

of which qualified Dr. King to be the Civil Rights Leader.

According to Mr. Esdaile, the most important aspect of the play was that Dr. King was a negro and that there was significance in his life for the would be follower. "Here was a man" he said "dedicated and achieved something any negro could aspire for and achieve as King did."

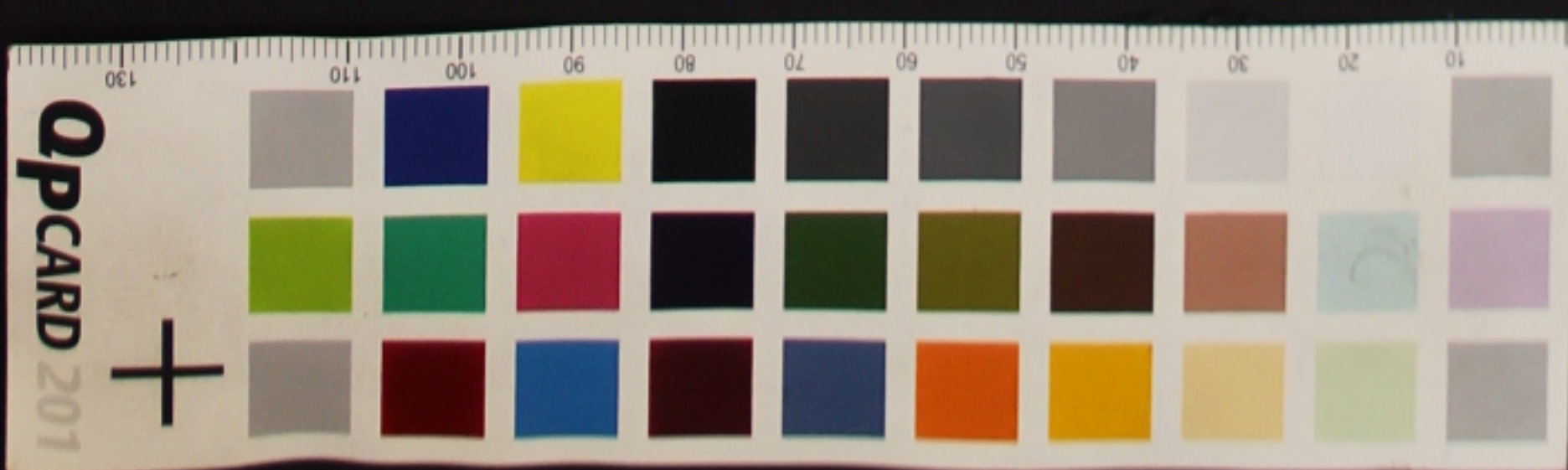
Lyrics to the play were written by Miss Pamela Wall who also played music and Nevisian Mr. Hugh Rawlins. Miss Amorelle Walwyn was also one of the musicians along with others playing

background music.

The play had a cast of 26 which included Charles Leader as the youthful Dr. King and Henry Browne as the grown man. His parents were Donna Manchester and Hugh Rawlins. His aide from among whom he emerged as leader of the Civil Rights Movement were Clement Williams and Tyrone O'Flaherty. Tony Cary was a lawyer.

It is understood that, by popular demand, there will be a repeat performance of the play and that consideration is being given to a performance in Nevis.

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# C of C considers Price Control Order 'irrational & impracticable'

The St. Kitts-Nevis Chamber of Commerce views with grave concern the publication April 1st of the Price Control (No. 2) Order, 1969, which was made without granting the Chamber any prior opportunity of either perusing the draft or expressing any opinion upon it. It is true that early last year the Minister of Trade and Industry appointed a Committee, which included representatives of this Chamber to advise on the subject of price control. The Chamber is aware of the recommendations made by this Committee but regrets to note that the provisions of the Order now published are fundamentally different in principle from these recommendations.

It is the considered opinion of the Chamber that, on many grounds, this Order is irrational and impracticable. It is not likely to succeed in achieving the legitimate objects of a Price Control Order as laid down by the Act (No. 7 of 1968). On the contrary, it can have the effect of making it impossible for merchants and shopkeepers to maintain or distribute supplies of many types of goods essential to the well-being of the community. It may even result in making several of the listed items un-

available at fair prices or, indeed, at any price at all.

The following are illustrations of our reasons for the opinions expressed:—

(a) Many of the prices fixed are actually below the landed cost of the goods to which they apply. Plainly, it would be impossible to comply with this order and remain in business. Yet there is a heavy penalty for refusal to sell at these prices.

(b) The margins allowed on many other items are insufficient to meet operating and overhead costs incurred in running any typical business concern or retail shop in this State; much less to provide a fair margin of profit.

(c) Because of the format, the legislation is discriminatory against the products specifically

named under each commodity, since the wholesale and retail prices fixed for these items allow less than the percentage margin permitted for competitive brands which would fall within the category of "all other unenumerated".

(d) The fixing of specific prices in dollars and cents is impractical and will operate unfairly be-

## Dr. Herbert: New Public Meeting . . .

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occasion. It sounds like torture, Mr. Powell said.

He said apart from the political aspects of the British invasion, the social aspects 'are degrading.'

Dr. Herbert corroborated what Mr. Powell had said on the Anguilla situation and said that martial law had been enforced in Anguilla.

He said he himself visited the island since the state of emergency had been declared, and he was stopped and searched five times in one night by British paratroopers. Later, he said, the British apologised for this indignity.

After the speeches a tape was played on which was recorded a report of an attempted deportation of Dr. Felix Spector, an American osteopath who went to Anguilla some months ago to assist the Anguillians in their medical problem.

When Dr. Spector was taken to the airport to be deported, hundred of Anguillians swarmed the field and prevented his deportation. The plane had to leave without him.

## Legacies of Gandhi

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mover of politics is not a greater achievement than to influence so profoundly the inner lives of people. Gandhiji differs from his fore-runners on the national scene in that he rejected the politics of the elite and found the key to mass action. He was a leader, closely in tune with the mass mind, interpreting it and at the same time moulding it. He was the crest of the wave but they, the people, were the wave itself.

### Freedom From Fear

Gandhiji freed us from fear. The political liberation of the country was not the culmination but a mere by-product of this liberation of the spirit. Even more far-reaching was the alteration he brought about in the social climate of India. Gandhiji set us free also from the walls and fetters of our social tradition. It was his axiomatic assumption of the equality of women and men, of the supposedly low-born and high-born, the urban and the rural, that inducted the masses into the Gandhian movement.

cause of the frequent fluctuations in the landed cost of imported goods. Frequent Amendments to the Schedule would be necessitated unless the prices were all expressed as percentages of landed cost.

(e) It should be obvious that the effective administration and enforcement of this order, with its tremendous amount of detail, would be laborious and very expensive, demanding a sizable staff paid out of the public revenue.

The Chamber of Commerce believes that this unfortunate situation is the result of unfamiliarity with the economics of commercial enterprise in this community. Even at this late stage, the Chamber is willing to give the Government such assistance as it can before the enforcement of this Order leads to an intoler-

able situation.

In the absence of the Minister of Trade and Industry the Chamber of Commerce therefore urgently suggests that Government considers arranging for this Order to be postponed for one month. This will give time for representations to be made to Government and discussions to take place on —

(a) general principles of price control legislation, and

(b) consideration affecting the realistic application of these principles in our community.

—St. Kitts-Nevis Chamber of Commerce

*Editor's Note: It is understood that a delegation from the Chamber will meet officials of the Ministry of Trade this morning to discuss the Price Control Order.*

## The Anguilla (Temporary Provisions) Order, 1969

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behaviour and obstruction with all the meaning attached.

Paragraphs 30 and 31 of The Anguilla (Temporary Provisions) Order 1969 reads as follows:

Any person guilty of an offence against these Regulations shall on conviction and unless any other penalty is provided in the regulation creating the offence, be liable to imprisonment not exceeding three years or to a fine not exceeding three hundred dollars, or both such imprisonment and such fine.

Notwithstanding anything

contained in the Magistrate's Code of Procedure Act Cap. 46, a prosecution for an offence against these Regulations shall take place before a Magistrate's Court, or if the Commissioner so directs before the Supreme Court: Provided that nothing in this regulation shall be construed as conferring any enhanced powers of punishment on a Magistrate's Court.

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