

NO.94

SATURDAY AUGUST 2nd 1969

Price 10¢

**MR. CUMBER LEAVES, MR. THOMPSON TAKES OVER.**

On Monday 28th July, Mr. John Cumber left Anguilla by R.A.F. for Jamaica via Antigua.

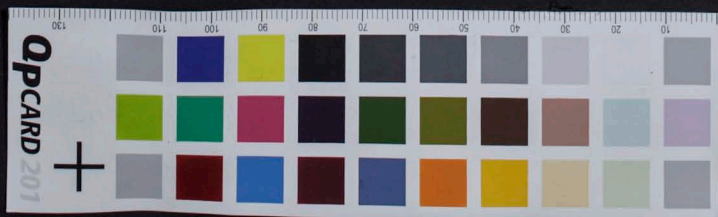
Mr. Cumber was H.M. Acting Commissioner in Anguilla for the past three months, and resigned on the 28th July for personal reasons, he said. Immediately after he left, Mr. W.H. Thompson was sworn in as H.M. Commissioner by Lieutenant Colonel Norrie Giles Commander of H.M. forces in Anguilla. The swearing in ceremony took place at the Court House and was witnessed by Mr. Jack Remnant and Mr. Ronald Webster. Also present were Members of the Council and Members of H.M. forces. The following is the official text of Mr. J. Cumber's speech on leaving Anguilla on 28th July 1969, and the speech by Mr. Thompson on the 28th July 1969, on the occasion of his swearing in as H.M. Commissioner in Anguilla:-

As I leave Anguilla this afternoon, I wish to say how much I have enjoyed working here with and for the Anguillan people in the last three months. I am sorry to be leaving after so short a period, but I know that my successor, Mr. Tommy Thompson who is an old friend and colleague of

mine, will be only too willing and anxious to help all of you in every way possible. There is, I believe, a great future ahead of Anguilla, and I wish you one and all God speed and great good fortune in all your endeavours and aspirations. I should also like to express my thanks for the help I have received from Mr. Ronald Webster and all the members of the Council of Anguilla; and of course to the Commander of Force Anguilla, Lieutenant Colonel Norrie Giles and his soldiers, and to the Commander of the Anguilla Police Unit, Mr. Jack Remnant, who will be returning to his home in Surrey at the end of this week. In conclusion, I wish all Anguillans, and those who are residing in this lovely island at the moment, God's guidance and blessing. Goodbye (Cont'd on page 5)

**MOUNT FORTUNE-ISLAND HARBOUR ROAD OPENED.**

A mile long stretch of road was ceremoniously opened at Mt. Fortune and Island Harbour on Tuesday last week. Mr. Wallace Rey, Chairman of Public Works Committee, officially declared the road open to the public when he cut the white ribbon, after making a short speech.  
(See ROAD page 2)



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

A group of Anglicans from the Diocese of Easton, Maryland, U.S.A. are presently here in Anguilla as guests of the Diocese of Antigua (to which Anguilla belongs) and the people of St. Mary's, as a result of a manifesto issued at the Anglican Congress held some years ago. The Rev'd. Barclay R. Stanton Jr. who heads the group of six said that this manifesto is entitled Mutual Responsibility and interdependence in the body of Christ, (M.R.I.). The essence of this document is that each part of the Anglican Communion should recognize and realize its dependence upon all other parts. Those accompanying Fr. Stanton are: Miss Margi Murphy, and Miss Terry Wright, both of Cambridge, Maryland, Mr. Henry Gass of Salisbury, Mr. Hugh Silcox of Kennedyville and Mr. George 'Happy' Mayer of Easton.

"The Diocese of Antigua and the Diocese of Easton were linked as partner Dioceses as a practical way for two parts of the Church to get to know each other," Rev'd. Stanton said. He went to say that they were here in Anguilla to be with the people hoping that in learning more about us, they may understand themselves a bit better. They hope to take back with them many ideas to their own Diocese. While they are here, they will be running "Vacation Bible Schools." The team has already spent one week at St. Andrews, and

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hope to spend next week at St. Andrews and one at St. Mary's. The five young people have been trained to teach in such schools and a large number turned out at St. Andrew's last week. The group has been chosen on a basis of interest and ability. They said that they have enjoyed their stay so far, and will take back with them many valuable experiences and memories of the days spent in Anguilla.

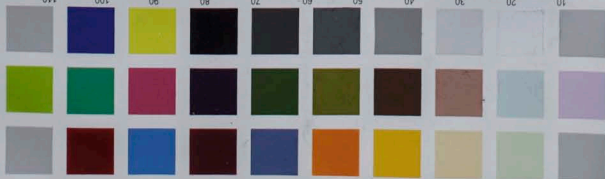
ROAD. (Cont'd from front page)

Among those attending the ceremony was H.M. Commissioner Mr. Thompson, Commander of H.M. Armed Forces Lieutenant Colonel Norrie Giles, Mr. Jack Remnant Chief of Police Dept., Major Plummer of the Royal Engineers, Mr. Ronald Webster, and other Members of the Council. Both Mr. Thompson and Mr. Webster gave speeches.

The road was built by Royal Engineers and local Anguillians together, and financed by the British Overseas Development funds.

Following are the speeches made at the ceremony by Mr. Wallace Rey, Mr. Thompson and Mr. Webster respectively. Mr. Wallace Rey. -- Commissioner, Major Plummer, Colonel, Ladies and Gentlemen. (See REY page 5)

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ANGUILLA: THE SHIPWRECKED 6000. By  
V.S. Nairpaul. (Cont'd from last week)

There was the Canadian with the idea for a radio station, for which for some reason he required stretches of beach. There was Jeremiah Gumbs's plan for a Bank of Anguilla (he actually started building), which frightened many people. There was Jeremiah Gumbs's plan for a "centre for phisical medicine". "The trouble is, will I get my people to understand it? Or will they object to it like the American Medical Association?" I could never understand what he meant; I heard it said that he wanted to bring down an American who had a magic cure. I remembered Jeremiah's half-brother Judge Gumbs.

The Anguillian faith in Jeremiah Gumbs as their guide to big American investment had been shaken by these projects and he had been dropped as an adviser to the Council. When I was in Anguilla I felt he was in disgrace sulking at the Rendexvous. And his own attitude to Anguilla changed from meal to meal. Sometimes he was patriot. "St.Kitts will be sorry if they attacked us. When we have finished with them, the British will have to feed them on crackers and molasses

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I guess." Sometimes he was despairing about Anguillans. "They don't know they don't know." He could give this a gloss. "The trouble," he said during one gloomy meal, "is that colonialism has made the Anguillian a shell."

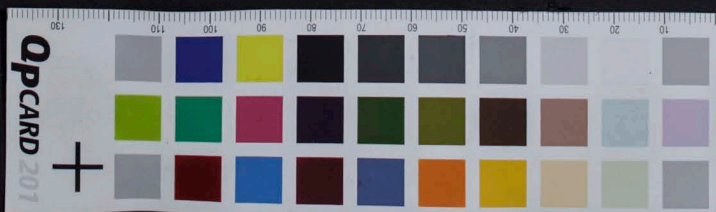
His changes of mood were linked with the arrival, examination, and dismissal of another American with an idea. This man was looking for a "Franchise": a grant of land and, I believe a twenty-five-year monopoly in the quarrying and block-making business. His examination by the Council and the Council's lawyer, who had flown in from Trinidad, lasted eight hours; and when he appeared at Jeremiah Gumbs's table at dinner, a young soft-bellied man in trousers of shocking Sherwood green, he looked bruised. I heard later that toward the end of his examination he was close to tears.

I was a subdued Jeremiah Gumbs who padded about the dining room in his slippers, pouring water, offering bread, like a man still with a duty to his ranch-hands. Afterwards he led me through the wire-netting door to the open verandah. Sand-flies and mosquitoes pounced. He slapped and clapped his big hands killing and calm.

"Who is this lawyer guy? Is he a constitutional lawyer, a company lawyer, or a criminal lawyer? Does he know anything about economics? You tell Webster. (See SHIPWRECKED Page 6)

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#### EDITORIAL. "Good enough for R. Gumbs"

In R. Gumbs's letter to the editor of last week's Beacon, "Good enough for Anguilla"

R. Gumbs, if he exists by that name, seems to be suffering from some anti-British disease. I am not attempting to defend British policy or methods of choosing a doctor, but it is only fair to remind R. Gumbs, and it is common knowledge, that Dr. Cable came here for the purpose of the army. But he was good enough to help out in the absence of any other doctor. Meanwhile we were told that attempts were being made to recruit a permanent doctor for Anguilla. Before the young doctor is even seen, he was criticized for his age. It is now fit that he should be reminded that we had many young doctors before, including Dr. Hyde who did a good job here in Anguilla and was very much liked. Dr. Cuthwin Lake is a young doctor, Anguillan born, and is one of the best surgeons in Antigua today. If R. Gumbs is suffering from some kind of anti-British disease, he should say so. And if he would look very closely, he would see that most of those that cried anti-British slogans are now hand in glove with them, even more than those who supported the British.

And for supporting the British,

The Beacon did, not because they were British, but because it was only too fair that the British should intervene at the time they did; and if I may say, in case it is not known, The Beacon is privately owned, and the editor has no commitments to any one. And for the editor (Atlin Harrigan) he does not fail to spell his whole name to any article he writes, whether it be to Bradshaw, H.M.G., Webster or whoever.

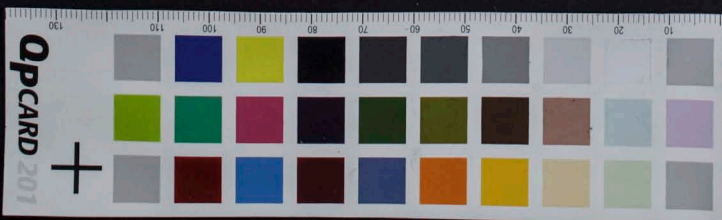
#### SPORTS COMMITTEE.

Once again August Monday is here and Anguillans from all over the world will be coming home to spend the holidays. They will attend the bazaars and fairs and go to the boat-races, which are one of the main August Monday attractions.

One of the things missing is a 'Sports Committee' that could organize the sporting events in such a way that all could be attended by everyone. Nevertheless, it is pleasing to note that the Anguilla Boat-Racing Association is formed, and we are sure it has the blessing of everyone. It should go a long way towards improving the boat-racing. But it should be remembered that it cannot function without money; and all lovers of this wonderful sport should see to it that it stays healthy financially. In this case the Association could offer better prizes and make better attractions.

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MR. THOMPSON'S SPEECH on July 28th.

If I may be permitted to make a very brief and my first speech in Anguilla, you probably hope it is the last one, I should like to say this: The final words of the oath are 'so help me God'. I believe those words very sincerely, and I am to do my job here I do need God's help; I need the help of everyone here. I've come to learn and Anguillans must be my teachers. I need to listen, to absorb, and to learn from them so that I can carry out my duty. Although I am not going to quote Mr. Michael Stewart's exact words, my duty is well known to everyone. It is to see that Anguillans are prepared for the future so that they shall live in the way that they, the Anguillans, wish to live. That is my task here. I have no politics. I merely hope that I shall pay to Anguilla the respect it deserves and that, in turn, as Her Majesty's Representative I may likewise be accorded the respect of the Anguillans. From mutual respect come trust, from trust comes unity, and unity brings progress. That is the unity of everyone: H.M. Representative, H.M. Forces, H.M. Police Forces, and the Anguillans, Her Majesty's people here in Anguilla. Thank you very much. I trust that I shall do my job properly, faithfully, according to law. Thank You.

Oath taken by H.M. Commissioner in Anguilla, Mr. W.H. Thompson on 28th July, 1969.

I, Willoughby Harry Thompson, do swear that I will faithfully bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors according to law, so help me God.

I, Willoughby Harry Thompson, do swear that I will exercise the functions of the office of Her Majesty's Commissioner in Anguilla without fear or favour, affection or ill will, according to law, so help me God. (official text of speeches - courtesy of Radio Anguilla).

REY (Cont'd from page 2)

We are here this evening to thank various workers for the effort they have given, their good service in preparing this stretch of road. Some of you may have heard some mild criticism as to why we should have an opening of this road. You should appreciate that this has been done by the British Development. The money has been given by the British Development and has been done by the British Engineers along with the Locals. Those of you who worked on this job have experienced the cool and calm way in which the Royal Engineers went about doing their daily tasks on this road. I have passed at various times, stopped and questioned my good friend whom the Locals have two nicknames for Tony is one, and you may help me with the other-Ginger. I have sometimes had to ask 'why Ginger? does Ginger grow? does this Ginger grow?' I am told 'yes Ginger grows'. (See Rey page 7)

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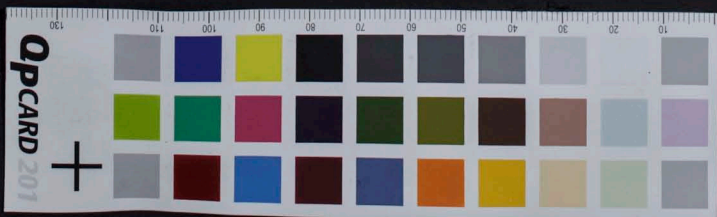
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SHIPWRECKED (Cont'd from Page 3)

He's got to have a development plan. Otherwise he's going to frighten off a lot of people. And they are not that many. They are not that many."

In the morning the sad American left, green check jacket matching his trousers. Jeremiah Gumbs still suffered. He was gonna invest plenty. He wasn't gonna make money for four years. Then you'll let someone else in? These people don't understand economics. If Webster could worry he'd be worried. He was gonna build that road, open up that whole area. Put value on people's property. Houses going up alongside the road. But these people don't understand. Look at me

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ANGUILLA BRANCH

THE VALLEY.

I put this place up. I advertised Anguilla. Now other people have put down their little places. The tourist come to the airport, the taxi-drivers rush him, take him this place, that place. I advertised." His voice began to sing. "Its not a way to live I don't know. I fell there's another way to live." I said I felt he had done enough for Anguilla.

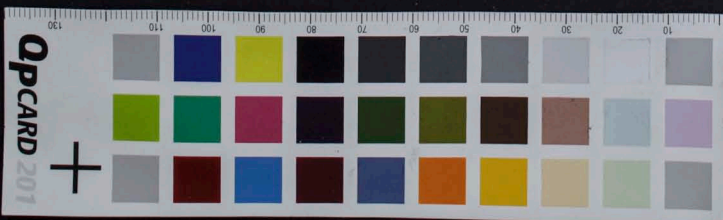
He said he wouldn't rest until he had done a lot more. "I love this country. I love the people. I know what poverty is like. I care. I remember when I was a boy..."

On my bill there was a charge for an Anguillian flag. I told Lady B. I hadn't had one. "You want one young man?" She waved it at me when she gave it, and did a gigantic mimicry of a drum-majorette. "Anguilla here I come." I put it in my pocket, the flag of the territory that Jeremiah Gumbs didn't look like opening up. Independence, as a smooth administration: that worked. Independence as the preserver of an old community: that made sense. Independence as "development" and quick tourist money: that as the San Francisco Group romantically sensed, defeats itself. Anguilla was going to disappoint more of its supporters. Independence had only just come; and Anguilla already required pacification. (Cont'd next wk)

FIRST HURRICANE FOR SEASON.

Anguillans were all batted down in preparation for Hurricane Anna that was due to strike the island last Friday evening. Hurricane Anna died down to a Tropical Storm just before it passed Anguilla. The center some 25 miles to the North.

Radio Anguilla stayed on the air all day to broadcast the latest developments, (Cont'd on page 8.)



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REY (Cont'd from page 5)

I admire Tony on this job. He did not once refuse to answer the many questions I asked him, and sometimes I felt that Tony would ask me why should I be asking him so many questions as if I were Major Plummer or something like that, because I know that the boss of this job was Major Plummer. At that time I was not the Chairman of the Public Works Committee, I was simply interested as an Anguillan and a Member of the Council, and knowing that I had worked on this road for many years but had never had the chance to put in a mile stretch at any time. Having the privi-

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lege to go thus far I think Major Plummer is right in having the first leg dedicated to the people. I would say how proud I am, and I know many of you here are proud to see this piece of road completed, because it has been a breakneck. It has been a solid sacrifice to our economy, because it has taken a lot out of our machines, tyres etc. I do know that it has been finished in less time, but as Major Plummer would have it done, under the specifications directed to him, we had to accept the time delay. Nevertheless, we look forward to how it will last, and how it will stand up to our traffic. If it will stand up to our traffic, then we know that the effort, the money spent in getting the chips here from Antigua will have been worth it. I see some of you here grinning with the sun and I shall not keep you here

with any lengthy chat. I expect the Commissioner, who is new to you all, his name is Mr. Thompson, he is likely to have a few words to say when I have finished, and I hope that he will shake both of your hands. I will do so, Major Plummer will do so, I also think Mr. Webster your leader, will do the same; and as many more as feel themselves interested and who are glad to see that we have reached the first leg in the horse. Therefore I shall declare this road entirely open to the public.

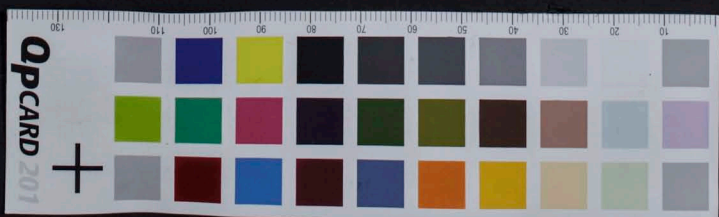
H.M. Commissioner.

Good afternoon. We have two extremely distinguished guests this afternoon, and of those two, one you know very well because Mr. Rey has just this moment cut the tape. It is his day - he is our Public Works man. Our other distinguished guest, representing the other side of this bit of work, is Major Plummer. As I stand here with Mr. Webster this afternoon, we represent Her Majesty and Anguilla and we at this very moment are rather at the heart of things. Now I never make long speeches, all I want to say is this:

(See COMMISSIONER page 8)

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COMMISSIONER (Cont'd from page 7)

If you're going to build a house you have to have many things and many people to do it. You have to have blocks and cement and timber and rafters and tiles, or whatever you put on the roof, and the plumbing, all the other little bits; and the house will never be completed until every part in it has been installed by the hands of man working together. So if the house of Anguilla is to be built for the future then everyone must work together. The old saying 'Unity is Strength' is very true, and on this very happy afternoon to realize that here in Anguilla we have that team, the Royal Engineers and Anguillans working side by side to bring progress. There is no better way of introducing myself than to turn around and say let us all be a team. I am delighted to be here and may we go ahead as a team. I know Mr. Webster you agree with that don't you?

Unofficial Text. Courtesy of Radio Anguilla who accept no liability for inaccuracies in transcript.

ED. Note - Space does not allow us to print Mr. Webster's speech. This we will print next week.

SPORTS NEWS. (by RALPH HODGE)CRICKET

Saturday 26th July.

A powerful Rest of the Island Side defeated the Valentinos Sports Club by 83 runs. The scores were, Rest 135 for 8 declared, Valentinos 52. Main scorers for the Rest were Albertus R'dson 52 and Brewin 27. Kenneth Banks of Valentinos completely mesmerizes the Rest's middle order batsmen taking 5 wickets for 14 runs in 8 overs.

Only R. Hodge, who took over an hour and a quarter to make 13 before he

retired offered any resistance when the Valentinos Batted.

Sunday 27th.

Blowing Point defeated a team from the Royal Engineers by 49 runs at Blowing Point Ground. Main scorers for Blowing Point were Kenneth Lake 27, George Romney 14 and Lindy Davis 10.

SUNDAY 27TH JULYFOOTBALL.

The Paratroopers defeated the local side 4-0 at the Park. At half time the score was 1-0 the goal coming some thirty seconds after start. In the second the Paratroopers, with the wind in their favour, scored three more goals. Despite the loss this was the best performance by the home side since it begun last December.

TUESDAY 29TH.

The Paratroopers defeated the Engineers 5-0. four of the goals coming in the first half.

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ANNA (Cont'd from page 6.)

as H.M. Forces took the necessary precautions, in setting up shelter stations throughout the island.

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MAN ABOUT TOWN

Already you can see the chaps arriving from St. Thomas, to have a good time at home.... People with corn should watch it closely as these chaps could be more destructive than a Hurricane.. Some of them has been grinding their teeth in preparation....

The new paved road has been officially opened at Mount Fortune.. The Gov't need not build any ducts here... they are already built.....

