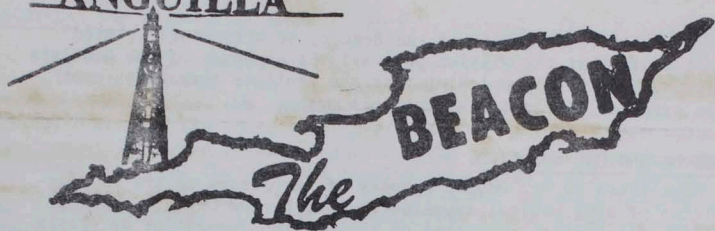


# ANGUILLA



NO. 91

Saturday July 12th, 1969.

Price 10¢

## PERMANENT DOCTOR FOR ANGUILLA.

We have been informed by H.M. Commissioner Mr. John Cumber, that at the end of this month, there will be a permanent Doctor on the island.

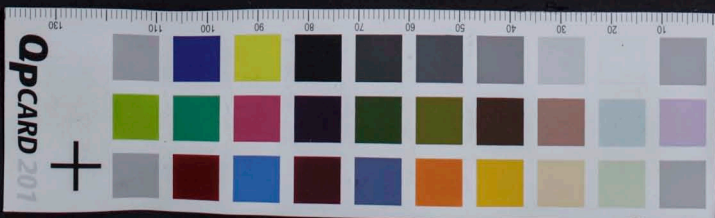
Dr. Peter Fenwick, Surgeon and General Practitioner, is expected to arrive at the end of July. He is twenty eight years of age and is accompanied by his wife and a young baby. Meanwhile, Dr. Cable, from the Parachute Regiment, is expected to leave on July 17th and will be replaced by another doctor who will arrive before his departure.

A.B.C. On the advice of the Council, the Anguilla Broadcasting Committee (A.B.C.) was formed recently. It consists of four members and a secretary. The members so far chosen are Mrs. Janice Gumbs of Sandy Ground, Mr. Clive Smith of Island Harbour, Rev'd Bennett, the Catholic Priest, (Contd. on page 2

## COUNCIL MEMBERS TO BE COMPENSATED.

All Council members will receive \$15.00 per day for each meeting they attend retroactive to June 1st, 1969. The decision was taken at the last meeting of the Council Tuesday July 8th, with all the members present. It applies to the nominated members as well as the elected.

It was in January of this year that the Council decided to examine the Government's financial position and to make allowances to compensate members of the Council. The only member of the Council that has been paid so far was Mr. Ronald Webster who received a salary of \$600.00 per month, from November 1967 up to when Britain took over the administration of the island in March. Mr. Webster was paid in keeping with the first 11 point constitution the island had, drafted by Prof. Roger Fisher who was legal adviser to the Government at that time. It made allowance for the office of the Chief Executive who would devote full time to the office and be compensated therefor. Mr. Webster was relieved of his duties when Her Majesty's Commissioner was installed on March 19th.



CORRECTION.

In the April 12th 1969 edition of the Beacon, we erroneously stated in the "Dental News" that the Mission pays all the expenses of the Dentists from the Mission. We have since learnt that the dentists themselves meet all their own expenses. We apologise for this error. Ed.

CLARIFICATION ON MEDICAL SUPPLIES.

We have been asked by Mr. Edward Dempsey of New Jersey to try to clarify the position of some medical supplies he sent to the Cottage Hospital in January 1969. Mr. Dempsey says that on the written request of Dr. Felix Spector, he had sent \$170.00 U.S. worth of medical supplies, as itemized by Dr. Spector, to the Cottage Hospital, Anguilla, to be dispensed under medical supervision, free of cost to the people of Anguilla. He had received written notice from Dr. Spector, dated Jan. 16th, that the supplies had arrived, but had seen no notice in the Beacon, as was agreed upon on his last visit here.

Ed. note. Dr. Spector has since left the island, and on investigation there is no record that these supplies reached the hospital. The nurse in charge there however, confirmed that on some occasions Dr. Spector did bring to the hospital some supplies, but no one knew from where they came.

ANGUILLA SITUATION DISCUSSED:

Reprint from the Daily News Mon. July 7th 1969.

London (AP) Prime Minister Eric Williams of Trinidad and Tobago discussed Anguilla and other Caribbean problems with Prime Minister Harold Wilson at No. 10 Downing St. Wednesday. The talks were attended by Foreign Secretary Micheal Stewart, with whom Williams had spent half an hour at the Foreign Office. William Whitlock, the foreign office minister who was forced to leave the breakaway island of Anguilla at gunpoint before British troops occupied it this year, also was present. Wilson later gave a luncheon in honour of Williams. Among those present were foreign Office Minister Lord Shepherd, Board of Trade Minister William Rodgers and Minister of Overseas Development Reginald Prentice. Williams is on an official visit to Britain at the invitation of the British Government.

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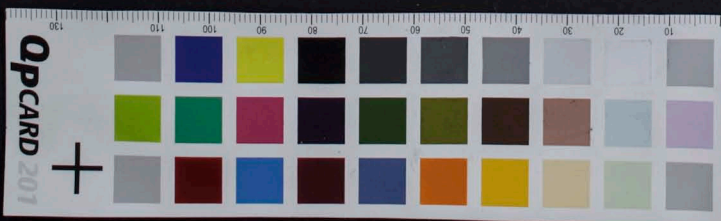
A.B.C. (Cont'd from front page)

Mr. Joseph Hodge is also to serve on the board, and a chairman will be nominated from them.

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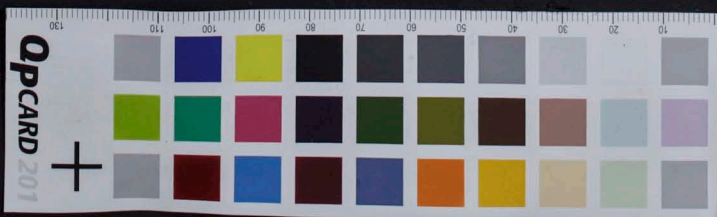


## ANGUILLA: THE SHIPWRECKED 6000.

By V.S. Naipaul. (Cont'd from last week).

Five and a half hours later the cutter tied up, quite simply, at the main pier in St. Kitts. Then the Anguillians discovered they hadn't thought about motorcars. They had intended to kidnap Bradshaw; they had to be content with scaring him. Some time later there was a report that thirty five men from St. Kitts had invaded Anguilla. The man who was the Provisional President flew over the reported landing area in an Aztec, dropping duplicated leaflets asking the invaders to surrender. But there were no invaders. The fighting was over. All that followed were words; secession was a fact. Anguilla had become the world's smallest republic. Its status was ambiguous. It still considered itself within the Commonwealth. It looked to London for a Constitutional settlement, for some sanction of its separation from St. Kitts. London didn't know what to do. For more than two hundred years, in fact, no one had really wanted Anguilla or had known what to do with it. The place was a mistake. It had its formalities. When you got off the Piper Aztec you went through Anguillan Immigration and Customs; they were both in one room of the two-roomed airport building. The Immigration man had a khaki uniform, an Anguilla badge, and an Anguilla rubber stamp. You needed an Anguillan driving license; it cost a dollar; you paid at the Police Station in the long, low Administration Building. The five-man police force was enough; there was little crime. Women quarreled and used four-letter words; the police visited and 'warned'; that, in the main, was the routine. There was a jail, and there was one prisoner. He had been there for a year, a St. Kitts man on a charge of murder. There was no magistrate to try him. Mr. Webster was hoping to deport the man as soon as the secession issue was settled. In the Post Office you bought Anguillan stamps, designed and produced by an English firm and sold by them to overseas collectors for a 15 percent commission. Incoming mails were regular; Anguilla had beaten the St. Kitts postal ban by having two box numbers on the half-French half-Dutch island of St. Martin. In the Treasury, next door to the Post Office, there was a notice about the new 2 percent income tax. Other taxes, on liquor and petrol, had been lowered, to increase consumption and revenue; and it had worked. People told me there were more cars in Anguilla than ever before. The Administration, spare and sufficient, had been inherited with the Administration Building. An elected fifteen-man Council ruled. The structure of Government was like sophistication in a community that had for long organized itself around its own reverences. The island ran itself; it worked. After half a day the visitor had to remind himself of size and squaintness. It was there, the new flag, designed by some Americans: a circle of three orange dolphins on white, a lower strip of turquoise. And in the fanciful anthem, composed by a local "group": *...An island where the golden corn is waving in the breeze, An island full of sunshine and where nature e're doth please.*

The visitor heard that the beaches were watched every night, in case St. Kitts invaded; that there were secret military exercises every fortnight; that the Anguillians had more than the 4 machine-guns, 55 rifles, 15 shotguns, and 2 boxes of dynamite they had at the time of secession. (Cont'd next week)



THE BEACON is an independent Anguillan news-paper published every Saturday. Founded September 27th 1967. Printed and published at "Lone Star" Anguilla W.I.  
Atlin Harrigan Publisher & Ed.  
S. Hodge Associate Editor  
Patterson Hunte Printer.

**EDITORIAL.** How right is G. Horsford in the letter to the editor on page 6 of this issue. If I were away from Anguilla, I'd probably say the same thing; but as a matter of fact, I am here, and am knowledgeable in most of the things that relate to this island. I have purposely refrained from printing many things that would make some of us look like idiots in the eyes of people who understand.

For this I am in the damndest position; being an editor it is my duty to comment on anything I see fit. I do not claim to be an expert, but rather far from it. But certainly I can see a pitfall. I have seen many, and my supporters and I have tried our best to guide the ship clear. On some occasions we have succeeded, on others we have been called that ugly word "Breacher". This does not matter as long as we are able to keep the ship on the right course. But at the turn of the year, when some influential members of the Council saw it fit to have Anguillans adopt that Republic Constitution, we were certainly headed for the rocks; and more than that, Holcomb, the brain behind the operation was moving in. Already he had secured through his supporters in the Council (the majority) the right to practice law, though he never was a lawyer in any other part of the world. Just a few days ago in a heated argument in the Council, we heard it said by Mr. Ronald Webster that this Republic Constitution is still in effect on the island, as far as he was concerned. Do the people who understand the true picture see it this way? Will some people rather live in pretence forever? Or have they lost track of the enemy? It is not for this reason why we continue to publish the Republic Constitution, but rather so that the Anguillans could read the context; for they were not given the chance to read and study it in the six days before they were asked to vote on it. And what was the alternative? Return to St. Kitts; what choice was the people given. The people should know that a constitution is not to be taken lightly, and more attention should be devoted to any future one. I do recognize the need to pay more attention where it is needed most; that is in setting up the Commission, and the delay in which it will start its work, and still the deadlock which could be encountered. Readers of the Beacon will remember that in my editorial of May 10th 1969 (#82) I suggested that it be agreed by all concerned, that a referendum be held in Anguilla ALONE to resolve the situation. I felt then that Bradshaw would want to play for time to recoup; (knowing that time nor money would change the Anguillans minds towards St. Kitts.) I went as far as to name a date for the referendum, mid 1971. (It was then talked about a Commission which I did not like) What was the result? Mr. Webster, Clive Smith and others went into my constituency and told the people (who believed) that he (Webster) would get a settlement by December of this year, and I was putting it off. (Cont'd on page 6).

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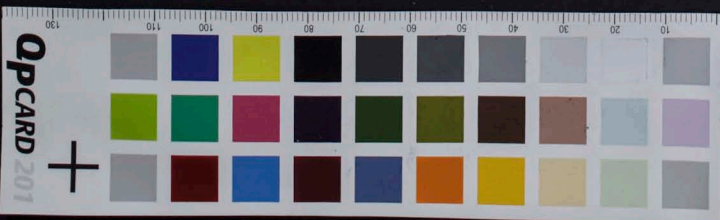
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The following is the text of a letter addressed to Mr. John Webster (Development Officer), from Dr. Everett Claus, who worked in the Dental Clinic last April. Dr. Claus asked that we publish it in full to clarify some misunderstanding that has arisen. Because of its length, we cannot publish all of it this week, so it will be continued in our next edition. Ed.

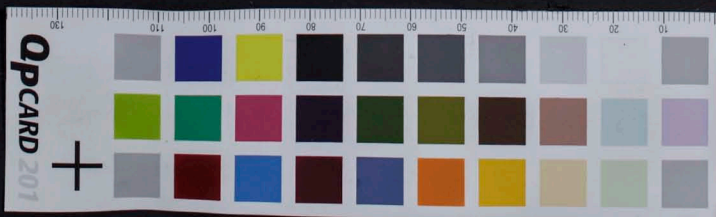
Mr. John Webster,  
Anguilla, B.W.I.

Dr. Everett Claus, 1620 High St.  
Denver, Colorado, 80218. June 13, '69

Dear John, Greetings to you from way out Colorado way, U.S.A. We remember pleasantly our visit to your nice island and the many people who were friendly to us while we were there. We were quite perturbed to hear that there has been a misunderstanding concerning our mission to Anguilla. So that any such misunderstanding may be clarified let me state my position.

I represent the Christian Dental Society and am Vice President this year. This society was organized some years ago to do a job that organized church missions were not doing, namely dental missionary work. We started with eleven members seven years ago and are now over 700 strong. We are interdenominational, we receive gifts of dental supplies and equipment as well as gifts of money. The supplies and equipment is shipped to any church sponsored hospital or clinic wherever needed. The members go to these needy areas at their own expense and help build, organize or set up clinics and then stay on to render professional service to the people of the area. Our members do not accept money or any remuneration for this service. This is done for Our Lord Jesus Christ who admonished us to "go through out the world to teach, preach and heal." Dentists go as healers, as physicians of dental ailments. This is done at their own expense. Our society feels that when their members pay their transportation and other expenses to go to far away places to serve, the people they serve should at least furnish board, lodging and transportation while in their country. We were told that we would receive maintenance and transportation while on the island of Anguilla. Also that the money or fees collected at the clinic for dental treatment was to be used for the purpose of paying our board and lodging.

We were disillusioned. Several days there was no water or electricity which interfered with the functioning of the clinic; There were numerous holidays at Good Friday and Easter time; the school children were treated without cost; the fees collected in the clinic were in B.W.I. dollars, while my hotel bill and air line charges were made in U.S. dollars. All of which made the money collected in the clinic inadequate to take care of my wife and hotel bill. Then there was the matter of transportation to and from the dental clinic. Surely you did not expect us to come the long distance from our home to the island of Anguilla to help your people and then have to pay to get to work? I refused to pay a bill presented to me for transporting us from the Hotel to the Clinic. You were very kind and considerate to bring your Volkswagen for us to use. There was nothing said about a rental fee. We took good care of the car and kept it in gas and oil. (Continued next week)



LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

As a critical reader, I admired greatly your technique in selecting material which earned your paper the rightful and most appropriate name as "Beacon" whose light guided the vigilant in avoiding the snares, despite the professional undercover of the many opportunists. Despite this, I am rather baffled with the type of material published such as a Bogus Constitution which the Beacon insists on publishing. Is it a lack of material on hand to be published, or are we bent on corrupting the minds of the people? Whatever the motive for publishing such a constitution, it clearly indicates our political immaturity to handle difficult problems. With the presence of the British we have seen so many constitutional experts who exert all their energies on a constitution which is null and void instead of talking the constitution in which our basic right to self determination as a unit of a tri-partite state is overlooked. Consequently, we now find ourselves in a very precarious position. Worse than that, the British, the original designers is caught outright and is doing everything possible to solve the puzzle, but has lost the clue. No wonder the "Master" cherishes and brandishes the St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla constitution before their eyes when forced against the wall. Presently we are existing, if my memory serves me correctly, on a promise which will not force us under an unwanted administration. In this era, this statement is incredible, so that the world is patiently following up the developments which will make the promise a reality. Surprisingly, no one for a moment studied analytically this statement, which is carefully worded. As far as Anguilla is concerned we want no association with St. Kitts, the statement refers to an Administration, not St. Kitts to which so many of us have fallen foul. The statement still does not meet our demand; on the other hand the British have not committed themselves with the constitution which legally unites us with St. Kitts and Nevis. With the advent of Statehood in St. Vincent, the Statement seems even more impossible, as this clearly indicates Britain's desire of happy riddance to colonies. Therefore let us divert our attention from Holcombism to some other aspects of the political task which will bring us nearer to a solution. Remember always, this is not a one man's problem we are all in it together. Signed, G. Horsford.

EDITORIAL. (Cont'd from page 4)

At that time he openly said that he supported the idea of the Commission. So a campaign was lodged against me. Demonstrations were held, letters sent to the Commissioner and even today Clive Smith is in the process of filing a petition against me. I started a political party (the A.C.D.M.) and let it lie low for the time being, just as I have relaxed on my comments in the Beacon. Every time I attempt to recommend something that conflicts with Webster's ideas, it is used as if I am the enemy and not Bradshaw. Today we have Webster expressing dissatisfaction in the Commission which makes it plain that he did not understand from the beginning, some two months ago, somebody had explained and now he is dissatisfied. A little more confidence in your own people and all could be well. Someone other than I would probably pick up the whole thing and leave the problems to the Hot Heads. No consistency whatsoever.

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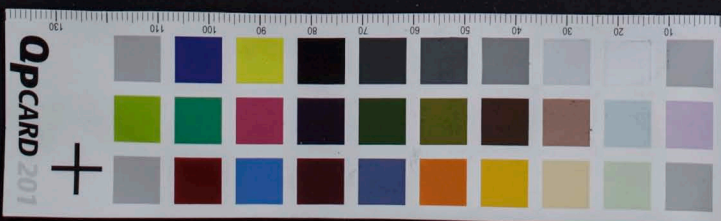
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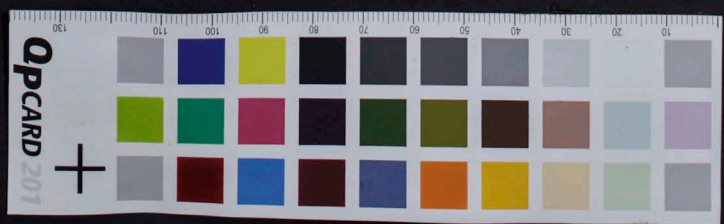
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NOTICE. T.R.LAKE Presents the Harrigan Family in their second religious recital in St. Mary's church on Sunday 20th July at 4.00 pm, Admission \$1.00 in aid of the scout's camp.

FAREWELL TO MR. JOYCE.

Mr. Michael Joyce V.S.O. Teacher, is expected to leave us on July 19th. A function was held in his honour last Tuesday evening at the Valley Secondary School where Mr. Hughes the Principal of V.S.S. and Mr. Hazel Chairman of the Education Committee, spoke in his honour. Mr. Joyce spoke in return and promised to return to Anguilla some time in the future. He has spent over one year on the island.

Four V.S.O. teachers will be coming to Anguilla for next semester. Mr. John Bee is the first to be recruited.

WEBSTER SEES BOOMING TIMES AHEAD. (Continued from last week's issue)

Webster can easily be called the richest man in Anguilla. "I own a hotel in St. Maarten, as well as dairy farms, and 365 acres of real estate," he boasted. "And my collateral on Anguilla is worth at least \$1.5 million U.S. He is also building a 65-room hotel and an enormous combination supermarket-theater. A visitor to Anguilla notes that building is going on everywhere. "Most of the construction here is financed with remittances from St. Thomas, and the pensions of Anguillans who lived in the U.S. and then retired to their homeland", said Anthony Lee who had lived as British Foreign Service representative on the island for 14 months. When met on Anguilla recently, he described his visit as "not in official capacity." Lee said, "The island's main export is people. In every other respect, Anguillans reap little from the toil of their labour." He explained that lobster is practically the only commodity which finds a market in the nearby islands. A plane from San Juan picks up the lobster crop several times a week. Anguilla's budget seems sound, to listen to President Webster: "We ended fiscal 1968 with a cash balance of B.W.I. \$91,654.57," he said. The money will be spent to build essential services, Webster added. There are only two electrical generators on the island. Lights and phone services are first on Webster's list. "And a water purification plant," he went on. "Under St. Kitts' rule we had nothing. Now we will seek our own destiny." Sweeping his hands over his domain, visible from the windows of his office, he said; "There are now 400 cars here. Someday there will be thousands, and our streets will be teeming with tourists."

LIAT. The Anguilla Council has decided to invite officials of LIAT (Leeward Islands Air Transport) to Anguilla, to discuss the possibilities of LIAT resuming scheduled flights to the island. LIAT flights were suspended when Anguilla declared secession from St. Kitts on May 30th 1967.

