



December 23rd 1967

THE BEACON



An Independent Anguillian News-sheet
No 13 Published Weekly Price 10 cents
Editor, Atlin Harrison

The BEACON wishes A Happy Christmas to all its Readers.

EDITORIAL. Anguillians are rightly rejoicing at the temporary settlement that has been found to their dispute with St Kitts, and are very grateful to the Parliamentary Delegation for what they have achieved, but we consider it our duty to remind our readers, that this is not yet Victory, nor yet a permanent Peace Settlement, but only an Armistice, even though heavily weighted in our favour.

Britain only stepped in at the invitation of the Government of St Kitts, and the Government of Anguilla. And while Anguillians are determined that by the end of the interim period, their divorce from St Kitts will be made absolute, the final severance of Anguilla from the State of St Kitts can only come, and we hope will come, when St Kitts finds that she can live more happily without us, and their House of Assembly votes to cast us off; or if the Constitution of the State be withdrawn.

We hope to publish next week a full text of the Agreement, approved and signed by members of the Council and by Messrs P Adams, E Gumbs, L Wilson, W Hodge, and the Editor of this paper, committing all Anguillians; just as it has been signed by Mr Bradshaw, committing all in St Kitts and Nevis. What we have gained will then be known by all, and also what we have not yet got, and have still to fight for.

INTERIM SETTLEMENT FOR ANGUILLA. On Monday afternoon Dec: 18th the Parliamentary Delegation announced in Burrows Park that a general agreement had been reached, which would be in force for a year or so. Mr Ronald Webster opened the meeting by introducing the two M.P.'s as "fellow Anguillians" to the cheers of the crowd.

Mr Nigel Fisher, M.P. thanked Anguillians for their warm welcome, and announced the general terms of the Settlement to be in effect in the interim period. This settlement is subject to final approval of Her Majesty's Government, and leaves all legal questions unresolved. H.M.G has agreed to many of the requests of the Anguillian Government, but has left most questions to be worked out during the interim period. Mr Tony Lee will be designated as the Senior British Official on Anguilla. He will assist and advise the council, and help to work out a permanent solution, satisfactory to all. H.M.G will be responsible for external affairs and defence. Mr Lee will be paid by, and report direct to H.M.G in London.

Mr Donald Chapman, M.P. made it quite clear that the interim arrangement does NOT mean the return of Anguilla under St Kitts. He hoped, with Mr Lee's help, that Anguilla would receive British and other money, much already promised, for development assistance for the roads and airport and other projects, and was sure that when he visited Anguilla again in two years time he would see many changes (Loud cheers) The Parliamentary Mission had obtained Mr Bradshaw's invitation to H.M.G to designate a Senior Civil Servant to work on Anguilla for an interim period of a year. The meeting then broke into song with the strains of "We are out to build a new Anguilla". When quiet was restored, Mr Tony Lee was introduced, and said that he was eagerly looking forward to being in Anguilla and helping to work out its problems. Mr Roger Fisher then spoke. He emphasised that the interim arrangement was not a final solution to Anguilla's status, or to the many legal problems that still exist. It was a step forward, a big step forward. It was now possible to work on these questions with Mr Lee's help. No party, either St Kitts or Anguilla had been asked to abandon its legal position.

Mr Webster and the other members of the Council then spoke briefly, thanking the Parliamentary Mission for the success of their efforts, and reminding Anguillians that we were still faced with a serious financial position, and called on all Anguillians inside and outside the island to continue their efforts to help Anguilla.

The meeting then broke up, and all went away with thankful hearts. A Steel Band took the street in a jamming session, went up to Island Harbour, and back to "Tropical Flower where they danced into the wee hours of the morning.

THANKSGIVING. There will be special prayers and thanksgivings in the various churches of the island on Christmas Eve, Sunday Dec 24th, and we are sure that there will be a full attendance at these services.

POSTAL ORDERS. If you have postal orders that have expired, that is are over 6 months old, it is hope that Mr Lee will arrange for their eventual payment. Please hand in such orders to Mr McDonald, or Mr John Webster during this week, and you will receive a receipt for them, and can hope for payment at a later date.

ADVERTISEMENT For the best in Construction, and Sanitary Unit installations, contact. O.V.M Hull. George Hill. Anguilla.



BARROW TO ANGUILLA. On Tuesday afternoon, to our great surprise, The Prime Minister of Barbados, Mr Errol Barrow, visited us. He had been passing through St Martin, and had heard of the announcement of the interim agreement. He was so overjoyed by it, and even though he could only spare a short time, he felt he must come over and congratulate Anguilla. He was able to meet with Mr Ronald Webster, and Messrs Lee, McDonald and Roger Fisher, and several of the Anguillians present. He had great pleasure in giving to Anguilla two Generators for use at the Government and Airport Buildings, and which would arrive next month. He left with the thanks and the Good will of all Anguillians.

ADVERTISEMENT. Sat Dec 23rd, East End School 7.30pm. Come one; Come all: Its Christmas time. You are invited to a grand Xmas programme, and we promise you an enjoyable evening of laughter. Front seats \$1. others 75c Under 16's 25c. Refreshments on sale

Sat: night Dec 23rd, at the Bamboushay. A Grand Dance. Gents \$1; Ladies 25c. Special treat of Souce Dinner for the Ladies.

Christmas Day, A Grand Dance in the Community Centre. Music for your dancing pleasure by the FABULOUS SWANS, Natives of Anguilla living at St Thomas, who will be accompanied by the Mighty Beaver.

Dec 31st. In St Mary's Church 7pm Christmas Tableaux and Carols part of Mothers Union Jubilee year. Silver Collection. (Also a Family get-together on Dec 29th)

OUR NEW BRITISH CIVIL SERVANT. Tony Lee who is now living and working with us here in Anguilla, was born in England near Stratford on Avon in 1923. His father was a country Rector of a parish of 400 people with two churches. Even now to visit his home village of Whitchurch, one has to get out of the car, and open (and close) a gate across the road. He was educated at Stratford on Avon, and at Shrewsbury School. Later he went to Magdalen College, Cambridge. During the war he was a Lieutenant in the Royal Navy, serving mostly in Motor Torpedo Boats in the North Sea.

In 1948 he went to Tanganyika in Africa, now known as Tanzania. There he was a district Officer and a District Commissioner, where he would have been called the "Ewana Mkubwa" (Not a bad name to call him by here, which means "The Big Man")

He also served as Clerk of the Executive Council and the Legislative Council.

He left Tanganyika in 1962, and worked in Birmingham, England for two years in the Motor Industry. In 1964 he returned to public service, and was posted to the Office of the High Commissioner in South Arabia, at Aden, where he served till very recently.

He is married and has three daughters. He is hoping to find a house in Anguilla which will be near to his work, where his wife can come and join him next month.

The BEACON extends a very warm welcome to Mr and Mrs Lee, and feels sure that he is the right man for the job, and that he will work in harmony with the Anguillian council, and will be their spokesman to her Majesty's Government in Britain, and will be so identified with Anguilla that he will rejoice with them when a final settlement is achieved.

THE BANK OF AMERICA COMES TO ANGUILLA. Not the least of our difficulties in the past six months have been the restrictions placed on the National Mid-Atlantic Bank in Anguilla, because it is a branch of the parent Bank in St Kitts.

This week a delegation representing the Bank of America, with Headquarters in San Francisco started negotiations which we hope will bring this well established and respected bank to our Island. Plans are being worked out whereby Anguilla will have at least one thoroughly reliable Bank, which will buy up all the assets and liabilities of the National Mid-Atlantic Bank, and make use of the present Bank buildings, and the present Bank Staff. This is good news for Anguilla, as we will no longer have a bank that is completely independent of St Kitts. Mr Rogers has in his safe keeping all the Ledgers of the "St Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla" Treasury Savings account, that concern Anguillian investors, and as soon as possible, hopes to be able to pay out deposits that had been frozen in that account. Notice will be given in the BEACON when this can begin.

CORRESPONDENCE. Sir, Please clarify your reason for publishing a Government Notice, after the publication of the Beacon on Dec: 16th. After hearing the Public Meeting on the Park last Monday, and the agreement that was reached, I conclude that nothing was wrong at all with the statement in the Editorial, which said that "Anguilla, St Kitts and Nevis would work together in the framework of the State". The agreements reached are only for about a year, at the end of which it takes Mr Bradshaw to agree to any new proposals. If this is not so, how come that he can say that any one in St Kitts found with Anguillian stamps will be prosecuted. If I am wrong, I suggest that he shut his mouth for one year. signed Anguillian, Anguilla.

ONE WAY TRAFFIC. The Big Policeman on point duty having held up all mail traffic bound for Anguilla for the last six months, has now turned round, and waved on this stream, but at the same time has put up his hand to stop the mail traffic from Anguilla bound for St Kitts. This action will hinder the establishment of better relations between the two islands, and we hope that wiser counsel will prevail. We use the BEACON as the only way to convey to our friends and supporters in St Kitts & Nevis
A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A MUCH HAPPIER NEW YEAR.

