

# Manifesto

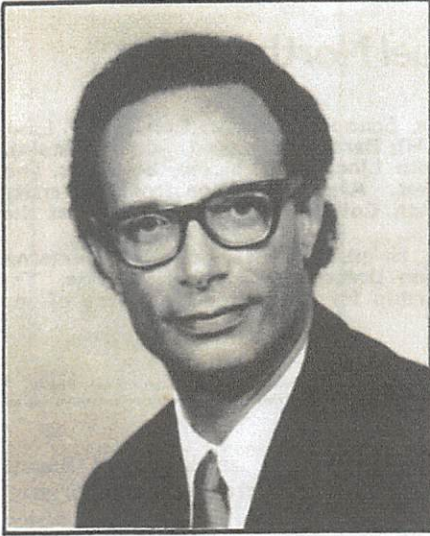
BARBADOS LABOUR PARTY

General Elections 1976

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## PREFACE

# A Message from Party Leader, Tom Adams

*Barbados today stands at the crossroads. One sign points down the road to total economic depression, to waste, to corruption in government, to massive unemployment, to unprecedented inflation. This is the way of the DLP regime after 15 years in power.*

*The other sign points towards the road that can lead us to new ideas, bold initiatives and fresh thinking about our national problems, to an honest and intelligent approach to what is needed in today's Barbados, to social justice, to new horizons in economic development, to a massive attack on unemployment and inflation, to the restoration of the principles of integrity and morality in the administration of government in our country. This is the way offered by the Barbados Labour Party. It is the road set out in our Manifesto in 1976.*

*We outline new programmes on Taxation and Public Finance, Economic Development, the Machinery of Government, Women's Rights, the Youth, Health, Worker's Rights, Education, Sport and Recreation, and Physical Development. We show you the men and women who will carry out these programmes in the new Government.*

*You will observe that the Party repeatedly pledges consultation with those who are most directly affected by the implementation of its programme, for example the doctors, in the case of the free National Health Service, and the teaching profession, in the case of the new Education Plan. These pledges are the pledges of a Social Democratic Party.*

*In the Barbados Labour Party we have firmly set ourselves against those who will destroy democracy in this country, whether by the formal introduction of the One Party State, which so many members of the Democratic Labour Party seem to favour, or by otherwise tampering with the Constitution, as was done in 1974 when so many religious and other community leaders were so roundly abused by one who should know better and who should show greater respect for the views of others. Instead, we rely on the democratic process and hope to win your support by offering policies in all our interests.*

*I urge you to give us your support at the Polls on September 2nd, 1976.*

*We Shall Not Fail You.*

*Tom Adams*

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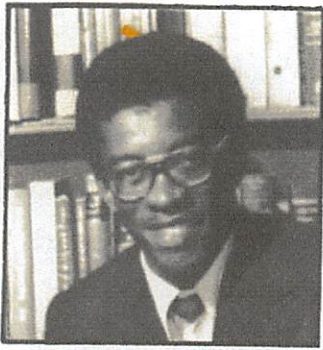
## Your Candidate (St. Thomas)

ADAMS, John Michael Geoffrey Manningham, 44.  
Son of Sir Grantley and Lady Adams.

Member of Parliament for St. Thomas since 1966. Chairman and Political Leader of The Barbados Labour Party. Educated at Harrison College (Barbados Scholar in Mathematics 1950); Magdalen College, Oxford University (M.A. in Politics, Philosophy and Economics); Senior Producer, B.B.C. (London); Barrister-at-Law (Grays Inn). Presently a Member of the Governing Executive Committee of the World Wide Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

Lawyer, Economist and Parliamentarian, Tom Adams is one of the nation's finest orators. As the Party's principal spokesman on Finance, he has demonstrated a mastery of fiscal and economic matters. He has exhibited great capacity for work, a flair for research and an impressive grasp of detail. For five years he has provided sound and inspirational leadership to the Barbados Labour Party.

Adams is married and has two sons.  
Candidate for St. Thomas.



## Your Candidate (St. Michael North West)

**ALLEYNE, Ezra Ederson, 32.**

Educated at St. Stephen's Boys' School; Combermere School; Holborn College of Law; Queen Mary College, University of London (LLB, LLM); Barrister-at-Law (Middle Temple). Emigrating to London in 1962 he became a Clerk with Lincoln & Lincoln, Solicitors, and passed the Diploma of the Institute of Legal Executives. After graduation from University he taught at South Bank Polytechnic and Kennington College, London, and later at the University of the West Indies (Cave Hill).

Ezra Alleyne has an impressive academic record. He placed first among 3000 external students in the Intermediate LLB and won the London University Convocation Prize. The following year he won the Sir John Johnson Scholarship for the best performance of any student in his first year at Queen Mary College.

Alleyne is married and has three children.  
Candidate for St. Michael North West.

## Machinery of Government

The operations of Government during the period 1971 - 1976 have more than ever shown that serious perils await our country if the Democratic Labour Party is returned to power for a fourth term. The period has been marked by swollen Ministries, swollen Statutory Boards, an attack on the Constitution, by-passing of Parliament in many areas, attacks on the principle of Opposition, and finally by a serious proposal by a Government M.P. for a one-Party State. It is essential at this time to put a check on the trend, so common in the new and developing countries towards authoritarian governments and dictatorships. It is vital to change the present regime and to make sure that democracy can never again be put at risk in Barbados.

To this end the Party pledges that it will never seek to amend the Constitution of Barbados by unilateral action such as used by the D.L.P. Government in its last session. A Commission for the Protection of the Constitution will be appointed on which all political parties represented in Parliament will be offered places. Its function will be to examine the Constitution with a view to ensuring that multi-party democracy is given institutional protection that can effectively prevent its destruction in our country. In particular the party will seek to establish a permanent Electoral and Boundaries Commission with full constitutional protection to preserve free elections and put an end to the sorry system under which the machinery of elections in the constituencies is largely in the hands of persons known to be

supporters of the Government.

### Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries

Recent criticisms have put it beyond doubt that there are too many Parliamentary Secretaries with too little work to do. The D.L.P. has treated such positions as rewards for the faithful without regard to real governmental need and the country has accordingly been saddled with the heavy administrative costs and salaries consequent on this policy.

At the same time, back bench talent, particularly in the Opposition, is wasted by Ministerial jealousy and failure to make proper use of Parliament.

The Barbados Labour Party pledges to:

- \* Reduce the number of Ministries.
- \* Halve the number of Parliamentary Secretaries.
- \* Make more use of Committees of Parliament to suggest and improve legislation.
- \* Associate ordinary members of Parliament with the machinery of Government.

### Statutory Boards

By a recent count the number of Statutory corporations, commissions, boards, and other institutions is now more than 50. They operate outside the strict control of procedures and expenditures laid down for the civil service. They are directed by persons appointed by D.L.P. Ministers and who overwhelmingly display their political interests in every aspect of the Boards' activities. They no longer serve the best interests of the areas of Government they were appointed to oversee.

The B.L.P. policy on Statutory Bodies will be to:-

- \* Reduce their numbers so that the membership of the Boards and the cost of running them is reduced with no reduction in staff. This will be

achieved by amalgamating Boards where they operate in similar or overlapping areas, such as those which deal with Agriculture, Irrigation and related subjects. The Caves Commission and the Parks and Beaches Commission will also be amalgamated as part of the Party's wider plan for improvement of the environment referred to later in this Manifesto.

- \* Extend Civil Service tendering procedures to all Boards. This will put an end to the scandals complained of by the Auditor General at the Housing Authority where million dollar contracts have been handed out without tender.
- \* Wherever possible, associate members of Parliament of all political parties with the operation of Boards.

### Integrity and Morality in Government

After long debate in the last session, Parliament agreed to appoint a Select Committee on the Leader of the Opposition's resolution calling for the introduction of integrity legislation for Ministers and members of Parliament. However, except for the Speaker, D.L.P. members failed to attend the Committee's meetings and it was unable to form a quorum. The Barbados Labour Party thus remains alone as giving whole-hearted support to the principle of such legislation, which is increasingly being passed in other Commonwealth countries. The Party, therefore, repeats and expands the pledge contained in its 1971 Manifesto:-

- \* It will pass legislation providing for Members of Parliament, Senators, and politically appointed members of Statutory Corporations to disclose their financial assets and liabilities on assuming office, periodically during office, and on termination.
- \* Again as a matter of principle



## Your Candidate (St. Joseph)

**BOLDEN, Charles Lindsay, 45.**  
Member of Parliament for St. Joseph since 1970.  
Educated at Society Mixed School; Combermere School; London University (LL.B)  
Barrister-at-Law (Inner Temple).  
Was a farmer and civil servant before proceeding to the United Kingdom; Member of the Rotary Club of Barbados.  
Lindsay Bolden is the BLP's principal spokesman on agriculture. In 1974 he did an extensive tour of the U.S. observing agricultural projects and in the same year visited Taiwan. He is a dynamic public figure with wide and varied interests and a practical approach to life.  
Bolden is married and has two daughters.  
Candidate for St. Joseph.

no salary increases will be voted by members of the House of Assembly except after an independent review by a properly qualified outside body.

- \* A code of proper conduct will be laid down for Ministers, senior civil servants and political appointees to Statutory Corporations.

## Economic Policy

The Barbadian economy is today in a sadly depressed state. Unemployment has reached an all-time high of over 25% of the true labour force; the Agricultural acreage has declined, as has the output from this sector, with a corresponding loss of jobs; in the area of light industry the persistent flight of foreign investors has resulted in there being no more persons employed last year than there were in 1960 when the B.L.P. formed the Government of this country; Tourism has been experiencing serious difficulties; and in the Construction industry things have been almost at a standstill.

At the same time prices climbed ahead of productivity as the impact of inflation, spurred on by local land speculation, was felt on the Barbadian economy.

The BLP believes that there must be immediate measures taken to restore health to the economy, and is convinced that this will be done only by a Government that recognises that creating jobs for people is more important than fancy rhetoric about the Gross Domestic Product, and that the Agricultural, Industrial and Tourist sectors are complimentary and not competitive.

The BLP's taxation policy will be employed, not only to give some measure of relief to the hard-pressed worker, but also to encourage economic development, particularly of labour intensive enterprises and the location of industries in

rural population centres.

There will be a category of preferred industries which will include:-

- \* Clothing Industries
- \* Furniture Industries
- \* Handicraft Industries using local materials for tourist and local consumption.
- \* The Construction Industry, particularly public buildings, the Housing programme and road construction.
- \* The Food Processing Industry.
- \* Agricultural Development.
- \* Shipbuilding.

### Taxation

The BLP recognises that one effect of inflation has been to raise the level of taxation in Barbados, and will therefore:-

- \* Amend the Income Tax Act to provide a higher level of allowances.
- \* Abolish the 5% Sales Tax and the Trade Tax.
- \* Restructure the Corporation Tax to remove the present disincentives to local investment.
- \* Overhaul the system of indirect taxation to produce a uniform system which will simplify collection and reduce the incidence of tax evasion.
- \* Provide tax incentives for economic development in rural areas.
- \* Encourage, by means of incentives, greater local ownership in the tourist industry.

Additional methods of raising non-tax revenue, especially from sources outside Barbados, will be instituted.

- \* Steps will be taken to provide and extend tax-haven facilities for overseas investors whose businesses do not operate in Barbados. The strictest control will be instituted to ensure that this does not lead to the island becoming a shelter for criminal elements but, subject to

this, such investors will be encouraged to deposit funds and form companies whose licensing and other fees can be expected to make substantial contributions to the revenue of the Island.

- \* Foreign-owned corporations which own land in Barbados will be taxed on such land at a higher rate than Barbadian owners. This will not apply to corporations protected by incentive legislation or to foreign corporations owned by Barbadians; but, in the latter case, full disclosure must be made to the Registrar of Companies of all Barbadian shareholders and the extent of their interests.
- \* Sale of postage stamps to stamp collectors throughout the world is a proven source of revenue to small countries. The example of neighbouring Caribbean islands has shown that the most profitable way of doing this is to establish a local Philatelic Bureau. The Party will set up a Barbados Philatelic Bureau to handle the worldwide sale and the promotion of Barbados' stamps locally, and has already sought advice from other agencies concerned in this type of operation. This proposal will also have the advantage of giving substantial employment.

### Financial Institutions

Government has several financial institutions. At the apex is the Central Bank of Barbados, which performs a regulatory function. There are also the Government Savings Bank and a number of Development Banking institutions, such as the Barbados Development Bank, the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank, the Agricultural Credit Bank and the National Housing Corporation which performs a



## Your Candidate (St. Michael South East)

**BRADSHAW, DeLisle Othneil, 35.**  
Educated at Hothersal Junior School; Industry High School; The Modern High School; Huddersfield Technical College, Yorkshire, England.  
Taught at St. Leonard's School; worked for a period with The Barbados Daily News and was an insurance underwriter before emigrating to the United Kingdom. He was a founder-member of the Afro-West Indian Association in Britain. On his return to Barbados he founded Kay's Academy, a secondary school at Chelsea Road, St. Michael and is its Headmaster.

DeLisle Bradshaw is an educator and as such is greatly concerned about the problems of the youth. He commends the BLP's plan to abolish the eleven-plus examination. He does not believe that the nation can afford to waste talent and knowledge. He believes too that Government's financial policy should be aimed at constructive expenditure for improving the lives of the people, not waste expenditure on "frills".

Bradshaw is married and has two children.  
Candidate for St. Michael South East.

limited lending function.

A BLP Government will consolidate these institutions and establish a **National Bank of Barbados** with divisions for savings, Agricultural financing, Development banking and a Commercial division.

The savings effected will be at the expense of the top-heavy management structures of existing institutions and not at the expense of present staff.

### Energy Policy

The Party views with dismay the fact of continued foreign ownership of all Barbados' energy facilities. It considers that just as the Government of Venezuela has taken control of its petroleum resources, including the sources of Barbados' petroleum imports, so should the Government of Barbados control its supplies of petroleum. It will therefore establish a **National Petroleum Corporation** to take over the operations of the Natural Gas Corporation as well as to exercise control over the importation, refining and distribution of all petroleum products in Barbados. It will seek the best advice on the expansion of refinery facilities to handle Barbados' own domestic oil production and, if warranted, will construct a new oil refinery to replace the existing plant.

### Jobs

The BLP programme for creating job opportunities will immediately generate some 3,600 primary jobs which will in themselves provide the base for additional employment throughout the Island. The main avenues will be:-

- Plans for Housing Construction.
- St. Andrew's Development Scheme.
- Agro-Industries.
- National Playing Field Programme.
- Parks, Beaches and Caves Development.
- Establishment of new Towns.

St. John and St. Philip Coastal highways and fisheries.  
Philatelic Bureau.

## Tourism

The recent decline in the tourist industry has highlighted the chronic imbalance in the shape of Barbados' tourism. For too great a part of the year there are too few tourists to make it worthwhile to run hotels and the big, mainly foreign-owned, institutions are better able to weather the storm than the small Barbadian-owned hotels and guest houses which cannot afford to drop their prices to rock bottom levels. At the same time the big foreign-owned hotels often make arrangements with tour operators in overseas countries which attract many of the less well-off tourists who should be the natural market for the medium-priced Barbadian hotel operation.

The Barbados Labour Party intends to put Barbados first in Tourism. Its policy as set out in its 1971 Manifesto has been adopted wholesale by the DLP Government but without the necessary commitment to maximising the return which Barbadians should receive from the industry.

The BLP will therefore:-

- \* Direct the tourist construction thrust towards labour-intensive tourist facilities.
- \* Improve tourist research so that Tourist Board promotional expenditure can be properly directed.
- \* Orient our tourist promotion drive towards the middle-income tourist and towards a larger number of countries than those from which tourists at present come to this country.

- \* Regulate the activities of tour operators to ensure that more of the tourist dollar reaches Barbados.
- \* Carry out intensive training programmes and incentive programmes to train middle and upper level management in Barbados and keep it at home.
- \* Implement those proposals which were set out under Tourism in our 1971 Manifesto and which have not been implemented despite their relevance.

### Local Transport

The Barbados Labour Party is particularly concerned over the hazardous circumstances in which the small taxi-driver plies for hire in the Tourist Industry and pledges to:-

- \* Review the conditions under which such small operators now have to seek their share of the tourist dollar and take firm steps to ensure that they will be given a fair deal and a fair return.

The Party also believes that as a result of the decision to limit the number of taxi licences, licensees should be allowed to sell, leave by will, or otherwise deal with their licences as private property in order to provide for their retirement. This right will be given subject to safeguards against any individual or company being able to become too large an operation by buying up licences.

## Trade

Elsewhere in this Manifesto we have outlined various policy measures which we will be employing to reduce the cost of living, check inflation, increase job opportunities and stimulate economic growth. A vibrant trade policy must also be used to this end.



## Your Candidate (St. Andrew)

**BRATHWAITE, Lloyd Beresford, 51.**  
Educated at St. Patricks Boys' School and Rural Studio, Christ Church. Correspondence courses with Woisey Hall.  
Worked as a sugar chemist for many years before becoming a real estate agent. Has been a member of the National Executive Committee of the Barbados Labour Party and a former first Vice-Chairman.

L.B. Brathwaite is an outstanding public speaker and an experienced politician. His great desire is to see parliament restored to its proper place in our governmental system. He sees the need for social reforms and is greatly concerned about the rising level of unemployment in Barbados.

Brathwaite is married and has five children.  
Candidate for St. Andrew.

DLP rule has been characterised by phenomenal price increases, particularly in essential food stuffs and services, coupled with regular and acute shortages of goods, particularly necessities.

The Barbados Labour Party totally rejects the idea that extraordinary price increases and regular shortages of goods cannot be eliminated. A BLP Government will pursue an active policy to restrain the level of prices in the shops, particularly the prices of the most essential items in the family budget.

### Import Licences

To this end it will immediately direct its attention to a reform of the machinery of price control and the abolition of the system of import licensing.

The last five years' experience has shown that the import licensing system is open to serious abuse and corruption. There is too long a delay in the processing of applications for such licences. Applications are often dealt with arbitrarily and are sometimes awarded to persons who have no connection or experience whatsoever with the business of trade, e.g. the award of a licence to import cement to Mr. Sydney Alleyne of Alleyne Mercantile Bank notoriety. When licences are refused no published or satisfactory reasons for so doing are given. In any case, there is no real and substantive reason for imposing licensing in respect of at least 50% of the items subject to such a system, since there are no general restrictions on their importation.

The result is that the consumer finds himself eventually burdened with heavier prices or short of specific goods. Any responsible Government has a duty to prevent this. It also has a duty to protect local industry. Subject therefore to safeguarding our own local industries, our treaty commitments to our CARICOM and other trading partners,

the renegotiation of the CARICOM Treaty, licensing will be abolished.

Hand in hand with the abolition of licences will go a policy of controlling monopoly tendencies among commission agents, wholesalers and retailers, who will be encouraged to sell more goods at lower prices rather than fewer goods at greater cost. Such a policy will reduce the cost of living and increase employment levels among staff engaged, for example, among lorry drivers and porters.

This policy will also be implemented by restructuring the form of indirect taxation to remove the incentive which the mark-up system provides for those who wish to take advantage of it to make greater profits by importing higher priced goods.

The existing machinery of price control leads to unnecessary delay and a great waste of the time of civil servants and the general public. Too much bureaucracy has been built up, and there is no established formula for the operation of an open and fair system of controls. A BLP administration will therefore:-

- \* Enact a new and comprehensive Bill covering all aspects of restrictive trade practices, monopolies, mergers and unfair competition.
- \* Drastically overhaul existing price control mechanism.
- \* Speed up price-fixing procedures so that there is no unnecessary shortage of goods while sellers wait for a new control price.
- \* Stiffen penalties for breach of the price control laws.

### Consumer Protection

The BLP recognises that consumers are at a great disadvantage compared to manufacturers and suppliers. Its members in Parliament have repeatedly urged the DLP Government to reform and

strengthen the laws governing consumer protection and consumer credit. As part of its commitment to the provision of cheaper and better goods, fairer trading practices and accountability by manufacturers and distributors, a BLP administration will:-

- \* Financially assist and strengthen the Consumer Association, encouraging it to establish further branches throughout the Island.
- \* Pass anti-dumping legislation to prohibit the dumping of goods which are considered to be less than fair market value and which constitute unfair competition to Barbadian manufacturers.
- \* Strengthen the Bureau of Standards, confer on it adequate powers and widen its responsibility to advise on measures to control false or misleading advertising, and the testing of advertisers' claims.
- \* Provide protection for our commercial and industrial designers and artists by a new Industrial Designs Act and a comprehensive reform of the present archaic and out-dated laws governing copyright, patents and trade marks.
- \* Pass a new and up-to-date Food and Drugs Act.
- \* Enact a modern Weights and Measures Act.

### Consumer Credit

In the field of consumer credit the DLP Government has done nothing to protect the consumer as a creditor. The existing law relating to credit transactions is totally deficient. A BLP administration will:-

- \* Institute a total review of all laws and practices governing credit and sale and loan transactions.
- \* Update all laws governing Pawnbrokers, Moneylenders and



## Your Candidate (St. Lucy)

**BRATHWAITE, Roy Edison, 46.**

Educated at St. Lucy's Boys School and privately.

He has worked with Sandy Lane Hotel in the maintenance department and is now self-employed.

Roy Brathwaite is a fine example of a life dedicated to community service with no attempt at self-advertisement. A religious man, he feels that one should not offer or give help to others for the purpose of expecting returns. This is why help should also be extended to those people who are incapable of repaying a kindness in material terms, but were nonetheless in need of assistance. He believes that contenders for political office should be persons who understand the problems of those whom they seek to serve.

Brathwaite is married and has four children.  
Candidate for St. Lucy.

Provident Societies.

- \* Review and update the existing Hire Purchase Act to cover a wider field of consumer credit and to strengthen the existing provisions under this Act and the Sale of Goods Act.
- \* Provide "truth in lending" by preventing false or misleading advertisements and by requiring in advertising and all loan agreements full disclosure of the terms offered, including the true rate of interest, and the full cost of credit in both cash and percentage per annum terms.
- \* Provide suitable protection for consumer hiring (renting and leasing) goods as an alternative to buying them.

The purpose behind the Party's policies in the field of consumer credit is the achievement of maximum freedom to develop consumer credit whilst creating maximum competition.

### External Trade

Under our policy for External Affairs we have listed as a guideline the promotion of our country's vital trade interests. The operations of the Ministry of Trade in this field must be closely co-ordinated with the work of External Affairs and external trade promotion will be a high priority. There will be a properly staffed Import/Export Analysis Division in the Ministry equipped to provide complete analyses of and all relevant information relating to our foreign trade, its promotion and expansion and the rapid growth of export credit and wooing of industrial development capital for our industries. Industrialists will be encouraged to expand rapidly their foreign trade and every measure will be taken to support them, including the provision of tax incentives and export credit by way of guarantees.

The Party is committed to an urgent review of our Caricom Treaty commitment to remove the adverse short term impact on our economy, safeguard the growth of our own industries without restricting competitive trade or the deepening of the integration process. Full parliamentary and public discussion of all proposed measures resulting from such a review will be encouraged.

The BLP will on the international front fight for greater freedom of trade, protection for the products of the less developed countries (including our own) in foreign markets, constant review of our relationship with the E.E.C., and adequate safeguards for primary products and commodities. A vigorous policy will be adopted towards the marketing of our sugar, rum and molasses to ensure maximum sales at maximum prices without undermining long-term guaranteed market conditions.

The detailed measures which we have outlined in this section emphasize the lack of an adequate trade policy pursued to date by the present DLP Government. The seriousness of the situation demands the instant and comprehensive treatment set out above.

## Physical Development and Communications

As noted in our 1971 Manifesto, concentration of services and development in the Bridgetown area is one of the greatest threats to the proper physical development of Barbados.

The Party reiterates its intention to develop as subsidiary urban areas.

Oistins, Speightstown, Holetown, Belleplaine in St. Andrew, Welchman Hall in St. Thomas and two other suitable areas, one in Central St. George and the other in St. Philip.

The new facilities to be added will include Community Centres, vegetable markets, library extensions, gymnastic and sporting facilities for both men and women, and Post Offices.

### Scotland District

For some years now Government has been operating the Soil Conservation Scheme, without regard to the long-felt need for its intensification and expansion.

This scheme has brought little control to the Scotland District and slippage of land has continued. If this soil erosion to be arrested the scope and operation of the scheme must be substantially increased.

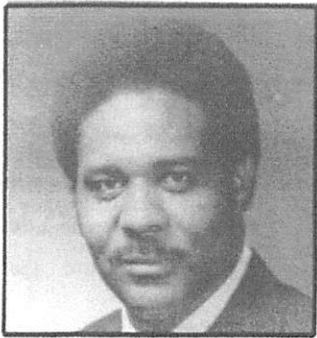
A BLP Government will seek international aid for a massive Development programme on the largest scale. This will include the excavation of dams down to spring level to trap and store all the streams which for generations have created the instability associated with the region.

These dams and lakes can act as reservoirs for irrigation and can also be developed as inland fish farms.

The entire face of the Scotland District will be changed, with land fill where needed and irrigation to maintain new crop programmes. Intensive fruit farming, (including mangoes, citrus, avocados and other items at present high-priced) will be carried on and greatly expanded from present levels.

### Roads

The Party will build a new coastal road in the parishes of St. Joseph, St. John and in northern St. Philip to link up with



## Your Candidate (Christ Church East)

**CHELtenham, Richard Lionel, 34.**  
Educated at St. Patrick's Boys' School; Boys' Foundation School; University of the West Indies (BSc. Econ) and (MSc. Government) McGill University; Manchester University (PhD 1970) Barrister-at-Law (Grays Inn).  
Founded Crusaders Youth Group; Founder Member Barbados Youth Council; Leader UWI Debating Team to the United States, 1963; Deputy Manager Barbados-Guyana Pavilion Expo' 67, Montreal; President West Indian Students Society McGill University.  
"Johnny" Cheltenham is a skilled debater with a firm grasp of public affairs. A leading authority on the recent constitutional history of Barbados he wrote his doctoral thesis on the subject "Constitutional and Political Development in Barbados 1946-1966".  
Cheltenham is married and has two children.  
Candidate for Christ Church East.

the East Coast Road at Bathsheba and the St. Philip road system at Blades Hill. This road will play an important part in the economic development of the coastal villages of St. John and the new shellfish fisheries and port facilities which the Party will establish in the area. It will also give access from southern Barbados to the new St. Andrew development scheme and will uplift and rehabilitate the whole eastern side of the island, thus spreading development more evenly over our land area.

## Public Transport

The Barbados Labour Party believes that Barbadians are entitled to a cheap and efficient transport system. This can only be achieved if the buses are all brought under the control of one authority with an overall plan for public transport, detailing the main routes and feeding routes and how it proposes to serve those people who do not live along the traditional bus routes.

The Party is committed to the view that mini-bus operators have a contribution to make and must therefore be brought within the overall plan.

## Land Policy

As must be the case in a country which is so densely populated, land in Barbados is a commodity in great demand. The setting is therefore right for land speculators, who are often non-Barbadian, and whose only interest lies in turning a sizeable profit.

The BLP is keenly aware of the serious harm to the national economy which results from land speculation, since such speculation causes inflation. For example,

speculators in Barbados have been buying land for prices sometimes as low as \$1,200.00 an acre and then cutting it up into two and four acre lots at prices ranging from \$6,000.00 to \$10,000.00 an acre. A genuine farmer who purchases land at this price cannot make a profit on his investment unless he is able to market his product at a price far beyond what the consumer should be paying for agricultural produce.

The BLP therefore believes that there must be a Land Use Plan which would ensure that maximum use is made of this scarce resource.

Lands which are good for agriculture must not be transferred to housing or industrial development. There is an abundance of marginal lands which could be used for these purposes. The BLP must therefore arrest the trend which has resulted in many valuable acres lying idle.

Idle land is a dead loss to the economy. In addition to its not producing anything, each idle acre represents a loss of at least \$300.00 to \$400.00 in agricultural wages annually.

In addition to its annual loss in productivity and wages, this state of affairs also lost the Barbadian economy millions of dollars by keeping land out of production at a time when sugar prices skyrocketed on the world market.

It is a situation which arose only because the Democratic Labour Party considered the personal enrichment of its members through land speculation to be of greater importance than the health of the national economy.

### Idle Lands

It is the policy of the BLP that idle lands must be speedily brought back into agricultural production and that no more lands should be allowed to lie idle in the future.

Idle lands fall into three categories:-

- \* Run down lands on plantations.
- \* Lands owned by peasants who can no longer work them.
- \* Lands taken out of agriculture for sale as building sites or two and four acre farms.

Much of this is good arable land and therefore represents a serious loss to the economy. Such as has been put into house spots is lost forever, but there is a great deal that can be brought back into agricultural production.

It will be our policy to end land speculation and to bring idle lands back into agricultural production by an integrated plan in which the emphasis will be on incentives and assistance to those who will bring the land into production. For those who cannot be coaxed or persuaded in this way other measures will be employed to make the land produce again.

The BLP is also aware that Government is the owner of over five thousand acres of land and that much of this land is either not used or is underused.

The Party believes that such misused or underused lands of good agricultural quality as are under public ownership must be given out for farming on a co-operative basis and that these producer co-operatives should become the full owners of the land, in such acreages as constitute economic agricultural holdings.

Land is Barbados' greatest asset. Its waste and misuse must be brought to a speedy end.

## Agriculture and Fisheries

Agriculture has historically been both a major employer and an earner of foreign exchange in our economy.





## Your Candidate (St. James)

**CRAIG, Lionel Seymour, 47.**

Member of Parliament for St. James since 1966.

Educated at Roebuck Boys' School and Barbados Academy.

Worked with J.N. Goddard & Sons Ltd. before becoming an insurance underwriter with Manufacturers' Life Insurance Company for 20 years; won the International Quality Award for five years and was a member of the Million Dollar Round Circle of the Company. Member of Canadian Life Underwriters Association and Founder-President of the Life Underwriters Association of Barbados.

Lionel Craig is an articulate champion of the underprivileged, particularly old age pensioners. A dynamic politician, he is first Vice-Chairman of the BLP.

Craig is married and has four children.  
Candidate for St. James.

However, as a result of DLP policies, thousands of acres have been thrown out of sugar production with no corresponding increase in other agricultural production. The acreage of sugar reaped in 1971 was 48,700; in 1975 it was a mere 36,000. At the same time the tonnage of sugar (which in the record year 1957 was 204,000) declined from 134,600 to 96,900.

By 1970 jobs in agriculture had already fallen from their 1960 level of 22,000 to 13,600 and have continued to fall.

While land goes out of production, cheap politics are being played with the Agricultural Development Corporation and the Barbados Marketing Corporation which should be dynamic agencies in a programme to diversify the agricultural economy; the Extension Services of the Ministry of Agriculture are undermanned; Co-operatives are denied the training and other support they so obviously need; and three banks perform inadequately to give an unsatisfactory service to the industry.

The BLP believes that the agriculture economy must be revitalised and that, with increased mechanisation, with the use of modern technology, and with improved wages and conditions in the industry, agriculture could become an attractive employer offering a career to the youth of our nation.

The Party is committed to a policy which ensures that food supplied to consumers in this country is at all times adequate in quantity and quality and is obtained at the lowest prices compatible with the proper remuneration of all sectors of the agricultural and fisheries industries, providing adequate incomes for those employed in them and investment funds for expanding output.

The Party also believes that home production must be increased to make the best use of our limited land resources and reduce the alarmingly high bill for food imports which constitutes a serious

drain on our foreign reserves.

### Proposals

A BLP Government will provide for:-

- \* The establishment of a full and efficient banking service for Agriculture, as part of the plan for reorganising the financial institutions of Barbados
- \* Reorganisation of the Ministry of Agriculture, with special emphasis on providing an effective Extension Service.
- \* Reorganisation of the Agricultural Development Corporation to make it an effective instrument for research and a stimulus to diversification of the agricultural economy.
- \* Recapitalisation, restructuring and redirecting of the policies of the BMC to ensure that it fulfills the basic objective of providing service to farmers by assuming the responsibility for marketing their produce.
- \* The immediate reactivating of all Agricultural Stations.
- \* The establishment of an Agricultural Zoning Programme and farmer registration to ensure adequate production and marketing programmes.
- \* Agro-industrial sites in St. Philip and St. Joseph for processing, freezing and canning, particularly to assist those who farm vegetables, peanuts and corn, whether on small or large holdings, and to eliminate the importation of these items.
- \* Removal of duty payable on all implements for use in the Agricultural and Fisheries Industries.
- \* All necessary assistance, including amendment to the relevant legislation, to be given to the Co-operative Movement to foster its growth.
- \* An adequate veterinary service both by the employment of vets and the training of para vets.

- \* A small-tractor rental scheme to assist farmers with small lots.
- \* Development of a service to facilitate the growth of fruit trees and the production of fruit.
- \* A Farmers' Crop and Livestock Insurance Scheme, to safeguard farmers against accidents and other perils.
- \* Incorporation of the 4H Movement into the agricultural education programme for schools.
- \* Subsidies for seed, fertiliser, and pig feed.

### Sugar

The Party's concern over the Sugar Industry and the arrangements for marketing sugar has been expressed time and again by our representatives in Parliament. We restate here our intention to take the necessary steps for Government participation in the development, control and direction of the Industry.

### Dairy and Beef

The Dairy and Beef Industry is a serious cause for concern. Prices are high and the production of both milk and beef is low. In addition, the Pine Hill Dairy continues to play an unconvincing role. Urgent steps will be taken to stimulate this area of our agriculture, and these will include arrangements for the participation of dairy men in the operation of the Pine Hill Dairy.

### Plantation Tenancies

The agricultural worker has traditionally lived on tenantry lands of the plantation without any hope of ever acquiring the land on which he lives.

Social justice demands that every tenant of a plantation tenantry be given the opportunity to purchase the house spot on which he lives.

A BLP Government will, as an act of the highest priority, ensure that each



## Your Candidate ( St. Michael South )

FIELD, Randolph Levenson, 50.

Accountant. Financial Controller, Sandy Lane Hotel Limited since 1965.

Educated at Lynch's Secondary School, he worked in Barbados and Trinidad before pursuing studies in Scotland.

Associate of the Faculty of Corporate Secretaries; Fellow of the English Association of Accountants; Former Secretary/Accountant, Transport Board; Accountant, Advocate Company Limited.

Apart from an outstanding professional career, Randolph Field has made a mark in sporting and other activities. He was a founder member of the Barbados Cycling Union and the Barbados Jaycees. He was manager of Sporting teams to the Central American and Caribbean Games in Puerto Rico (1966); Pan American Games, Winnipeg (1967); Commonwealth Games, Edinburgh (1970).

Field is married and has four children.  
Candidate for St. Michael South.

tenant is given the opportunity of purchasing his house spot at a reasonable price.

The purchase price will be calculated on a basis to ensure to the owners the same return as they are at present receiving on their investment. Based upon the above the cost of the spot will be an amount well within the ability of the tenant to pay.

### Fisheries

The BLP attaches equally great importance to the development of the Fisheries Industry. While it produces less direct employment than Agriculture, it is still a significant employer; but more importantly, the sea is a source of highly nutritious food which can be brought reasonably cheaply to the consumer, if the industry is efficiently organised.

A BLP Government will make provision for:-

- \* Three new fishing ports in the St. Joseph/St. John area, St. Philip/Christ Church area, and St. Peter. These ports will all carry cold storage and marketing facilities.
- \* All fish to be cleaned before removal from the ports so that the remains should be collected for use in the production of molasses/urea/protein animal feeds.
- \* Financial assistance for the purchase of engines for fishing boats.
- \* Subsidies for the installation of freezing facilities and radio sets in boats, to provide our fishermen with the means of fishing in deeper waters where there is an abundance of fish.
- \* A National Marine Insurance Scheme to ensure cheaper insurance for boats.
- \* Beacons to guide in-shore fishing vessels.
- \* A viable shell fish industry along the East Coast of Barbados.

- \* Inland fish farms, utilising the streams of St. Andrew and St. Joseph, and, it is hoped, the dams and other bodies of inland water created in the St. Andrew Development Scheme.

## Civil Aviation

The Barbados Government has associated itself with the ownership of two airlines. One of them, Caribbean International Airlines, flies passengers across the Atlantic, while the other, Carib West, flies cargo from Miami.

For reasons of both tourism and trade this aspect of communications is very important to the economy and it is therefore necessary for the Government of Barbados to seek the best possible arrangements. The BLP is very concerned that this has not been done.

The shroud of secrecy which for a long time enveloped the operations of the DLP's C.I.A. (Caribbean International Airways Limited) and its flirtations and relationships with Laker Airways, is but another glaring example of the DLP's disdain for the people of Barbados. It required the vigilance of the BLP and a number of public-spirited citizens to bring into the light of day certain vital and relevant matters connected with the share-holdings of the so-called national airline and up to now, the general public still does not know the full terms of the Government's contact and contract with Mr. Freddie Laker and Laker Airways.

The few facts which are available about this whole business point to the conclusion that the intention of Laker Airways is to get a toe hold in the U.S.A.

The BLP proposes to make a full investigation into Caribbean International

Airways and its shareholdings, and its relationships and contacts with Laker Airways; and, in keeping with its policy of making the conduct of Government as open as possible, to publish the results of its findings.

Generally the Party will take all necessary remedial action to safeguard Barbados' best interests in the field of civil aviation. All financial dealings with Carib West Airways Limited and I.C.A. will be subject to parliamentary scrutiny and control. Positive action will be taken to safeguard the country's air routes and to work towards the preservation and expansion of regional routes for regional carriers. The role of the regional carrier will be emphasized.

The BLP, having built Seawell International Airport, recognises the importance of adequate air transport facilities. It will continue a policy of modernising and updating airport facilities and will co-operate regionally with other Caribbean countries to improve aviation training and air traffic control facilities.

It does not accept and will not continue the war which the DLP has carried on against British West Indian Airways.

## The Environment

In earlier Manifestoes in 1966 and 1971 the BLP has consistently advocated far-reaching and comprehensive measures for the improvement of our environment. Just as better housing is a key priority for every individual citizen, so too do our work and leisure surroundings demand much greater attention to our natural environment. Strict measures are necessary to control pollution of our air, water resources, beaches and land mass and the littering of our streets.



## Your Candidate (Christ Church West)

FORDE, Henry deBoulay, 43.

Member of Parliament for Christ Church West since 1971.

Educated at Christ Church Boys' School; Boys' Foundation School; Harrison College (Barbados Scholar 1952); Christ College, Cambridge University (M.A., LL.B); Barrister-at-Law (Middle Temple); Senior Counsel (1976).

Past President Lions Club; Member Anglican Church Advisory Property Committee; Chairman, Company Law Committee; former Deputy Chairman, Public Service Commission; Patron, Dorcas League; Member, Caribbean Press Council.

Henry Forde is a tireless advocate for women's rights and successfully proposed the establishment of a National Commission on the Status of Women. He has been prominent in many humanitarian and charitable efforts in the island over many years. One of the BLP's leading intellectuals, he is widely respected throughout the Caribbean.

Forde is married and has two sons.  
Candidate for Christ Church West.

Positive steps must be taken to control indiscriminate noise levels, to prevent the wanton destruction of our flora and fauna, to improve drainage, to prevent the blocking and destruction of our gullies by waste, the defacing of our cliffs, the annihilation of our coral resources, and for the improvement of our caves.

In such times of economic stringency as now confront us we cannot be a wasteful society.

The Party will therefore establish a Department of the Environment for the overall supervision and execution of policies to protect our environment where it is good and improve it where it is not good enough. The powers of the Parks and Beaches Commission will be widened and its jurisdiction extended to cover playing fields, community centres, open spaces, caves, gullies and historic sites. Staff training schemes will be instituted and a National Playing Fields service established to provide groundsmen and other staff.

The Party will therefore:-

- \* Strengthen and enforce the provisions of existing Town and Country Planning legislation. In particular it will remove political interference from the day-to-day functioning of the Department and permit technical officers impartially and professionally to get on with the job of physical planning, subject only to general policy guidelines.
- \* Control ribbon development.
- \* Enact a comprehensive Control of Pollution Bill, a Control of Noise Bill and a Litter Bill.
- \* Improve and enforce the law relating to the indiscriminate placing of advertisements all over the country so as to preserve the aesthetic amenities of the country side.
- \* Improve the collection of litter and waste and widen the powers

of the Sanitation and Cemeteries Board.

- \* Strengthen enforcement provisions in all existing legislation to prevent the continual existence of derelict buildings and sites.
- \* Take positive steps to conserve our coral reefs and resources for the enjoyment of our citizens and our visitors.
- \* Give increased support to the Barbados National Trust.
- \* Improve and expand access to beaches and provide more and improved beach facilities. In particular, the Party will develop major beach facilities at Accra in Christ Church, Brandon's in St. Michael, the East Coast in St. Joseph, Six Men's Bay in St. Peter and Cove Bay in St. Lucy.
- \* Establish parks along the undeveloped coastlines of St. Philip, St. John, St. Joseph, the Pico Teneriffe area in St. Peter and St. Lucy.
- \* Take remedial action to eliminate the conditions which lead to flooding (particularly in Bridgetown) after moderately heavy showers.
- \* Rebuild the Cathedral Square in Bridgetown by removing the present Sanitation Department and providing a properly planned urban plaza and historic centre.
- \* As a part of a policy for urban renewal to build a multi-storied housing scheme in northern Bridgetown.

## Housing

The BLP believes that every Barbadian has the right to decent housing at reasonable cost. The Party will therefore, on being returned to power, embark on a

programme for the building of at least 800 houses per year.

Necessary steps will therefore be taken to direct finance towards mortgages for owner-occupied buildings and in this way provide a badly needed stimulus to schemes for privately-financed housing.

The programme will be marked by a new dynamic community approach to housing. It will encompass the educational, recreational and ordinary living needs of functionally integrated communities.

For this reason all public housing developments will in future make provision for:-

- \* Community Centres where residents may meet either for indoor games and other forms of recreational activity or for some educational or other purpose.
- \* Day Care Centres where parents may leave their children in the full confidence that they will be properly cared for. These centres will be adequately staffed and equipped with facilities for the education of children in the three-to-five year old age group.
- \* Playing fields which will be properly maintained for the benefit of the youth of the community.

To give effect to its policy on Housing the Party is committed to the preparation of a National Housing Plan, which will be based on up-to-date information as to the community's needs for housing and related amenities.

The plan will provide for:-

- \* Basic amenities, such as water, roads and light, to be brought to those householders who are at present deprived of them.
- \* The reopening of a Housing List for all persons who need land to rent, such land to be provided at a reasonable rent and to have the same facilities as exist in Housing Areas.
- \* A complete overhaul of the National

## Your Candidate (St Michael South Central)

HINDS, Charles Ronald, 29.

Educated at Belair Junior School; St. Mary's Boys' School; Barbados Academy; Combermere School; Drakes Business College, New York; New York University; American Academy McAlister Institute of Funeral Service.

He is a director of Percy Hinds & Co.

Charles Hinds devotes a great deal of time to mixing with the people of his area and listening to their problems and rendering whatever assistance he can. This was in fact a way of life for him even before he decided to seek a political career. He is particularly concerned about the problems of unemployment and housing. He believes that everyone has a right to full opportunities for development.

Candidate for St. Michael South Central.



Housing Corporation to make it an efficient agent of Governmental policy, capable of achieving the national Housing targets.

- \* A scheme whereby all tenants, existing and future, may opt to purchase both house and land from the Corporation and to that end have their rents credited to the purchase price.
- \* The Corporation's surveying and conveyancing services to be strengthened in order to reduce costs to the poor person who wishes to own a home.
- \* The Corporation to be directed to write off arrears of rent in the Housing estates for persons who are genuinely unable to pay, in order to give them a fresh start.
- \* A management office to be set up in each Housing Development to satisfactorily serve the needs of tenants and for the efficient collection of rents.
- \* Except where Caricom Treaty obligations preclude, licences on the importation of building materials to be removed and steps to be taken to ensure that the consumer has access to such sources as will supply him on a regular basis with a product of good quality at the cheapest possible price.
- \* An end to be put to the practice of awarding public housing on the basis of party political affiliation rather than NEED.

In the area of privately-financed housing, a BLP Government will:-

- \* Require all insurance companies, trust companies, banks, pension funds and other lending institutions to lend up to 90% of the appraised value of the property in question, at a reasonable rate of interest, for a period of up to 30 years, to borrowers who are purchasing or building their first house, and

will extend the definition of lender as set out in the Mortgage Finance Act to include individuals who will also gain the protection of the Act.

- \* Grant special tax Concessions to those persons who are prepared to lend money for the above stated purposes.
- \* Enact a comprehensive Building Societies Bill to encourage the growth and formation of bodies devoted to the development of housing and provision will be made in the legislation for tax-free incentives for such bodies.

The Party's programme is therefore designed to attract both public and private funding to the task of housing the nation. In achieving this goal it will not only bring to the country a great social benefit, but will also provide a much needed boost to the Construction Industry which has historically been such an important provider of jobs for people in this country.

## Health and Welfare

The BLP has always been the leader in planning for the health needs of Barbadians.

One of its earliest Manifestoes (1940) reveals a commitment to the establishment of "clinics to deal with antenatal cases, child welfare, tuberculosis, cancer and social diseases".

More recently, the Party's Manifesto of 1961 promised four new District Hospitals with out-patient clinics. This was part of the BLP Government's last

Development Plan for Barbados and was later implemented by the DLP.

In the BLP's plans as set out in the 1956 Manifesto, the new Hospital, now known as the Queen Elizabeth, was to be but one aspect of a scheme for a National Health Service. The Party built the hospital, but lost power before it could implement the rest of its programme.

A BLP Government will establish a Free National Health Service for all Barbadians. The Party believes that no further time should be lost in bringing Barbados in line with those countries, for example in Europe, where free medical schemes exist.

The essence of the Service is that Barbadians will be able to go to the doctors of their choice and obtain free of charge the kind of medical care in which they have confidence. In such circumstances a healthy relationship develops between doctor and patient. This cannot be achieved in a public clinic where the patient may see one doctor one day and perhaps five others in the course of a single month, and where attention is as impersonal as it now is at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Casualty.

The Party will therefore provide for:-

- \* Each registered medical practitioner to keep a Register of Patients.
  - \* Patients not to pay fees to the doctor for the attention they receive;
  - \* Doctors to be remunerated on a "capitation" basis i.e. so much per year for each registered patient;
  - \* Remuneration to be paid promptly at stated periods;
  - \* The price of drugs prescribed by doctors to patients within the Health Service to be reduced and standardised, with the Government making good the difference where such exists.
- The entire programme will be worked out in consultation with the medical profession.

The Party's programme will also con-



## Your Candidate (St. Peter)

**HINDS, Walter Clare Burton, 56.** Educated at Boscobel Boys' School and Parry School. Diploma in Journalism. Member of Parliament since 1966. Journalist and former newspaper Editor. Proprietor of a Commercial printery and bookshop.

Burton Hinds is the consummate parliamentarian. He takes his duties as a representative of the people very seriously and is respected for the quality of his contributions to debates. Has been a member of the Debates and Publications Committee of the House of Assembly. An executive member of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, he has attended conferences in Grenada, Jamaica, The Bahamas, the United Kingdom and India. A formidable debater, he has no equal in his ability to articulate the grievances of the masses.

Hinds was twice married and has six sons.  
Candidate for St. Peter.

tain measures for improving the services offered by the Hospital and other Health institutions. In particular, it will pay urgent attention to:-

- \* Training more doctors.
- \* Training an adequate number of paramedical staff, especially for the Queen Elizabeth Hospital where there is not sufficient personnel to man the equipment which has been installed at great expense to the taxpayer.
- \* Reorganising the administration of the Health Services.

The Party is also deeply concerned at the number and extent of health problems in Barbados. For example, malnutrition is a very serious problem, particularly among children, and diabetes plagues the lives of many adults.

The Party commits itself to an extensive programme of Health Education which will, among other things, impress upon the minds of average Barbadians the importance of paying careful attention to matters of diet.

Another benefit from the Health Education Programme will be to the Family Planning Association whose work will be given every reasonable assistance by a BLP Government.

Finally, a BLP Government will create an integrated Mental Health Service with extended facilities within easy reach of all who need assistance.

### Old Age Pensioners

The BLP believes that some sacrifice must be made by Barbadians to take care of Old Age Pensioners through the years until the National Insurance Scheme takes up the main burden of looking after our senior citizens. BLP parliamentarians have repeatedly taken up this theme in the House of Assembly and called for a pension increase to at least \$20.00 weekly. The Party will accordingly reduce the age of qualification to 65 years and increase the Old Age

Pension to this level with provision for further periodic increases.

The Party will keep these pensions under constant review with the aim of eventually reducing the age of qualification to 60 years and providing for annual periodic reviews of the weekly amount of pensions which will take account of periodic increases in the cost of living.

The Party will also:-

- \* From time to time review all National Insurance pensions to bring the qualifying age down to 60 and increase the benefits payable under the National Insurance Scheme.
- \* Adjust the pensions of retired public officers to take account of the salary being currently and from time to time paid to the relevant office holder rather than pegging the pension to the salary paid to an officer at the date of his retirement.
- \* Give old age pensioners the right to free drugs and to free medical care provided by their own doctors (including specialists).
- \* Ensure full implementation of the proposals to pay the water rates and electricity bills for old age pensioners.

Not only will emphasis be placed on increased benefits, but steps will be taken to provide improved services for the elderly. The Party will construct sheltered housing and expand home nursing, while at the same time initiating proposals for home-help and good-neighbour schemes and all other forms of domiciliary and community care.

### Food Subsidies

There is no doubt that a vast number of our people are still living below the poverty line. Inflation has had its effect on their family budgets. Urgent action is therefore necessary not only

to restrain the prices of essential items but also to supplement the standard of living of poor citizens.

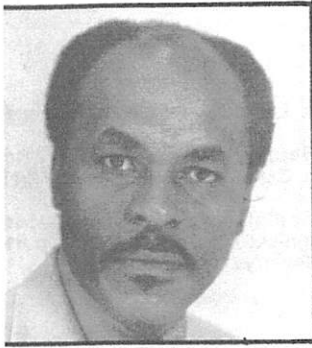
The Barbados Labour Party Government will provide food subsidies for those of our citizens below the poverty line, to cover such items as rice, flour, fish, meat, bread, butter, milk, sugar and tea. Food subsidies are relatively cheap to operate, and will be an important part of our anti-inflation strategy.

### The Handicapped

The State must shoulder its responsibility for its handicapped and disabled. To this end, a BLP administration will:-

- \* Provide better services for the handicapped.
- \* Increase its financial and other contributions to all voluntary organizations catering to the handicapped.
- \* Construct more sheltered workshops and provide vocational guidance for the handicapped.
- \* Initiate a policy whereby each employer is encouraged to employ a minimum percentage of handicapped citizens (where suitable work is available).
- \* Expand the educational facilities catering for the handicapped with the accent on intergrating the handicapped children into the total school system.

Our country owes a debt of gratitude to the many voluntary organizations which have helped to satisfy the needs of the aged, the poor and the handicapped. The Barbados Labour Party acknowledges this contribution and will seek to encourage support and strengthen such organizations. Not only will it increase Governmental assistance to them but it will encourage our better-off citizens to do likewise by an appropriate amendment to the Income Tax Act conferring proper exemptions for donations given to such organizations.



## Your Candidate (St. Michael West)

**JOHNSON, Victor, 40.**

Educated at Boscobel Boys' School and The Coleridge Parry School in Barbados; New York College of Medical and Dental Health Technology (Diploma); Long Island University (B.A.); New York University (M.A.).

Lectured at New York University and City University of New York; Did Post Graduate Course in Marketing Management with Dow Executive Development Programme; now attached to the Barbados Institute of Management and Productivity as Management Sociologist where he is concerned with advising small businesses.

Vic Johnson joined the BLP in 1969. His special fields of study have been anthropology, sociology, medical technology, management and business. By training and experience he is fully equipped to make a valuable contribution to Barbados.

Johnson is married and has two children.  
Candidate for St. Michael West.

A Charities Act will be passed to give legal certainty and impetus to all charities.

## Education

Education is an important instrument in the social and economic development of a country. In building a just society there must be equality of opportunity in education. This means that we must fashion a system of education through which all individuals will be helped to develop their full potential and the skills necessary to play a significant part in the life of the community and participate critically and constructively in its political, industrial and social institutions.

It means further that, even though our financial resources may be scarce, additional funds must be devoted to the educational effort.

At present there is almost no State provision for children between the ages of three and five years. There being only two Government-run Nursery Schools for the entire island; nor does the DLP administration use the existing Day Nurseries for any educational purpose.

The BLP believes that Day Nurseries must be provided wherever population demands, and that these should be adequately staffed and equipped to perform a school function. Our policy in relation to Day Nurseries is set out elsewhere in this Manifesto.

The present educational system provides for those between the ages of five and fourteen and, to a lesser extent, those between fourteen and eighteen. It does little more.

The concept of the all-age school still exists. A pupil who at age five enters the primary school continues in the same school up to age fourteen, unless he wins a place in a secondary school at age eleven, or he leaves to

attend a private secondary school at great financial cost.

In short, in a country where one is not recognised as a member of the labour force until he reaches age fifteen, he often finds himself out of school at age fourteen. Only this year hundreds of pupils have been turned out of the Secondary Modern Schools at age fourteen. The school leaving age must immediately be raised to sixteen.

There is some technical education offered but this is not integrated into the main system of education and the DLP's plans to build one large polytechnic in Bridgetown would suggest that the case for a single integrated educational system is not understood.

### Decentralisation

It further suggests that the DLP is unwilling to decentralise this area of education, and is unable to free itself from the notion that all services should be located in Bridgetown (despite all its congestion) and people brought to these services.

The BLP believes that schools throughout the nation should be equipped so that students can acquire technical skills without having to journey several miles to a central institution. It further believes that an effective way of students acquiring technical skills is by way of production of items of market value.

As regards the established Secondary School system, there has been the policy in Barbados for some time to talk about the "New Secondary Schools" without any corresponding drive to raise the performance level up to, or indeed above, that of the Older Secondary Schools. In the G.C.E. 'O' Level these schools have always done worse than the Grammar Schools. For example, in the year 1970 only 2% of the candidates from the Comprehensive Schools were able to pass more than four subjects at one sitting compared with 8% of the

aided Independent Schools and 32% from the Grammar Schools. These figures also indicate that the Secondary Schools are on the whole performing inadequately. Even in the school leaving certificate examination, the Comprehensive Schools have been doing poorly. In 1973 11% of the students passed this examination and 89% left school with nothing to mark the end of their school careers.

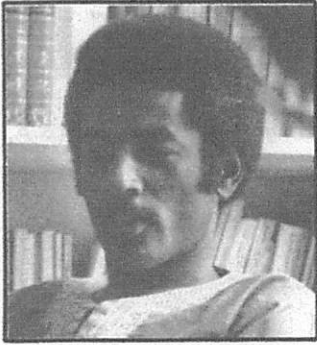
Community College results are usually presented to the public with such distortion as to give the false impression that this institution has been a success.

Entry to the Secondary Schools is still regulated by the Common Entrance Examination (commonly known as the Eleven Plus) although it is clearly established that this means of selection has been discredited the world over.

Disparate institutions continue to make unsatisfactory provision for vocational training in this country, outside of the context of any information as to the manpower needs of a developing society. Elsewhere in this Manifesto proposals are set out for the establishment of a Manpower Research Unit and the training of the labour force.

A Labour Party Government will urgently prepare and publish an overall plan for the development and exploitation of our Educational resources. Among its principle features will be the following:-

- \* The provision of educational facilities for children between the ages of three and five, making maximum use of Day Care Centers.
- \* The reform of school curricula to permit the teaching of subjects relevant to our needs as a developing society. For example, agriculture must be taught in the schools.
- \* The upgrading of educational facilities to cater to the development of the full personality of the student.
- \* The decentralisation of technical



## Your Candidate ( St. John )

LINTON, Hutson Randolph, 30.

Educated at Holy Trinity Boys' School; Combermere School; West London and Ealing Colleges, England; University of London (LL.B.) Barrister-at-Law.

Employed as a Civil Servant in Barbados (Accountant General's Department) and in the United Kingdom (General Post Office) and served in The Barbados High Commission in London. He also lectured in law for two years at Ealing College, London.

Hutson Linton believes that the art of successful living is the art of helping others. On his return to Barbados he threw in his lot with the B.L.P. since he recognised this as the only party dedicated to the task of helping the poor and dispossessed in the society.

Linton is married and has one son.

Candidate for St. John.

and vocational education and the relating of such education to the national manpower demands.

- \* The empowering of schools to market within their immediate communities the commodities produced by the students.
- \* A programme for making the entire educational system coeducational.
- \* The abolition of the Common Entrance Examination (the 11+).
- \* The raising of the school leaving age to 16.
- \* The expansion of teacher training facilities.
- \* The construction of schools until all children of school age, including the handicapped, are provided for in the public school system.
- \* The appointment of a Career Guidance Officer in every secondary school.
- \* Support for the continued development of the University of the West Indies.
- \* The abolition of fee-paying and other discriminatory provisions against students of law at the University of the West Indies and at the law schools run by the Council of Legal Education.
- \* The expansion of the scholarship programme in areas of National demand.
- \* The provision of free uniforms for school children.
- \* The expansion of the School Meals Service to embrace the entire country.

The BLP believes that the preparation of a Plan for Education is a matter of compelling national interest and that nothing will come of our efforts unless we involve at every stage of our deliberations the expertise and experience of those formally involved in the education process, in particular the teachers through their professional organisations.

## Young People's Charter

The BLP recognises that the young people of Barbados are the most important segment of our national society, particularly as our society is a young society, more than half of the population being under age 25. This represents a vast store of energy which can be harnessed to the national development effort by a Government which understands the needs of young people and appreciates the role they can play in the development process.

At present the young people of Barbados are poorly provided for within an outdated educational system. Very little else is done to provide opportunity for the youth of this country.

The BLP understands the complex and varied needs of youth. These needs are linked to the needs of the educational system, as to the need for jobs. Young people must be trained to fill the vacancies for skilled persons created by a rejuvenated economy instead of constituting as at present a vast reservoir of untrained and unused talent.

The BLP is committed to the youth having their say in the formulation of all policies and programmes relating to their present condition and future hopes. This is an important aspect of the Party's plan to mobilise this dynamic segment of the community to perform to the maximum of its energies and abilities.

To this end, and in our effort to generate wider job opportunities on the basis of education, training, and acquired skills, the BLP will:-

- \* Create a National Youth

Congress to advise Government on all matters relating to youth affairs.

- \* Establish a National Youth Programme to provide opportunities for unemployed youth and school-leavers who cannot be immediately absorbed into the job market or find places in the higher educational system.
- \* Establish a voluntary Community Action Service Scheme.
- \* Establish a National Training Scheme to train youth in animal husbandry, vocational trades and agriculture.
- \* Encourage young people to use Community Centres and Holiday Camps as meeting places to discuss matters among themselves and to learn from one another to put their heads and hands to the task of building Barbados.
- \* Co-ordinate and expand the existing youth services of the country.
- \* Provide out-of-school facilities for training in skills and general education of the youth.
- \* Generate job opportunities for the young people of the country.

It is the Labour Party's confident expectation that our Youth Programme will produce service-oriented and dedicated men and women equipped on the basis of their own sense of social responsibility to play a front-line role in the Government's programme to promote social justice, economic change, and cultural development.

## Arts and Culture

More money in the pockets of Barbadians does not, by itself, mean that we are enjoying a better quality of life. In addition to basic creature comforts — food, clothing, and shelter — the Labour Party considers it a prerequisite for the



## Your Candidate (The City of Bridgetown)

MILLER, Billie Antoinette, 32.

Daughter of Frederick Edward Miller a former BLP Minister.

Educated at Belair Junior School; Queens College; Kings College, Durham University; Barrister-at-Law (Grays Inn).

Secretary/Treasurer, Barbados Bar Association; Council Member Barbados Family Planning Association; Member of the International Federation of Women Lawyers; Member of the Commonwealth Caribbean Resource Centre; Treasurer of the Grantley Adams Memorial Fund.

Billie Miller is the complete politician. She brings youth, dynamism and undoubted flair to public life. Her performances on the political platform, particularly in the City Bye-Election have marked her out as a young woman with a big future in the public life of Barbados.

Candidate for the City of Bridgetown.

improvement of the quality of life that opportunities and facilities should be provided for the enjoyment and creative use of leisure time and the fulfillment of our non-material needs.

The BLP considers cultural development to be an integral and vital part of the process of national development and the emergence of an enlightened citizenry. That is why we are committed to providing wider opportunities, better facilities, and the encouragement of mass participation in the entire range of cultural and artistic pursuits.

The BLP believes that the artists should control the arts and culture, devise policies, organise and manage programmes. To this end, it is proposed to set up a National Arts and Culture Council to:-

- \* Ensure the preservation of our cultural heritage and the enrichment of our contemporary cultural life.
- \* Facilitate access to participation in every sphere of cultural and artistic opportunity.
- \* Promote local art and culture and develop markets for consumer cultural goods and services at home and abroad.
- \* Establish and manage a Cultural Foundation which will function as the funding institution for the arts and culture.

A BLP Government will also be committed to:-

- \* The provision of a Centre for the Performing Arts which will be the anchor facility in our proposed multi-purpose cultural complex catering to a broad range of artistic endeavours and cultural pursuits.
- \* The provision of services to protect our cultural heritage, duty-free goods to assist in the development of our creative talents, and promote mass participation in, and enjoyment of, a broad spectrum of the arts and culture.

- \* The provision of an administrative structure of trained professionals to co-ordinate the effort to develop an authentic cultural life and harmonise cultural development and structural transformations in the wider national frame-work.
- \* The organisation of scholarships, exchange visits, and technical assistance programmes through regional and international agencies.
- \* The establishment of an organisation to protect the interests of musicians and recording artistes.
- \* The establishment of a National Design Centre, a National Dance Company and a National Theatre Company.

## Sport and Recreational Facilities

The Labour Party believes that sport is a key lever in the struggle for social justice and the creation of healthy minds in healthy bodies. As we stress the need for greater productivity and better working conditions in the work-place, there must be a parallel thrust for wider sporting and recreational opportunities, modern and adequate facilities nationwide, and ready access to, and mass participation in, all forms of organised sporting and recreational activities.

The BLP is committed to the principle that sports people must organise, direct, and control their activities. The Labour Government proposes the creation of a National Sports and Recreation Council

which will function as an advisory agency, and a National Sports Foundation which will organise and manage all financial resources.

The BLP's policy for sport and recreation will embrace the following:-

- \* Provision of increased and improved facilities, multi-purpose sporting complexes, gymnasias, and the utilisation of unused open spaces for recreational purposes.
- \* Public access to facilities in schools during after-school hours, week-ends, and holiday periods.
- \* The introduction of sports medicine, modern equipment, and the provision of financial assistance and training opportunities for all sportspeople of international class and potential.
- \* The removal of all duty and taxes on sports goods and equipment and the provision of direct government grants where necessary.
- \* The recruitment of trained personnel in an expanded Sports Department to promote the idea of excellence in sport.
- \* The employment of personnel to maintain playing fields and recreational facilities.
- \* Nationals who have achieved international recognition will be encouraged to serve and make their experience and expertise available to the nation.

## Law Reform

The increasing complexity and the social development of our society and the need to extend the citizens' protection against power and its abuse, demand the existence of a permanent Law Reform and Revision Committee with a full-time and properly qualified Staff.





## Your Candidate ( St. George North)

ODLE, Jack Gordon, 49.

Educated at Workmans Junior School; St. George Boys' School; The Barbados Academy; Sir George Williams University, Montreal, Canada (B.Sc); University of Toronto. The holder of a degree in Chemistry, he was first President of the West Indian Society at Sir George Williams University. He was also a Member of the Debating Club and the Students' Christian Movement. Worked in Canada as a Quality Control Chemist. He is at present a Director of West Indian Supplies Company Limited.

Jack Odle inspires confidence. He is a man of wide interests whose philosophy of life is that the more fortunate should try to help the less fortunate. His family has a tradition of service and his promise is to provide fair and honest representation to his constituents.

Odle is married and has four children.  
Candidate for St. George North.

Recommendations for law reform are still made in a haphazard and spasmodic way. This is not good enough.

Three successive D.L.P. governments have ignored the absolute necessity for the establishment of a permanent and properly organised system of keeping the laws of the nation under constant review.

The establishment of such a Committee will be one of the priorities of a B.L.P. government. Its general functions will be to formulate proposals for the reform of all aspects of the civil and criminal law of Barbados as the need arises. But as a matter of urgency it will be charged with the task of examining and advising at a very early date on the following particular aspects of law reform:

- \* The proper protection of citizens' rights, including the privacy of the individual.
- \* Consumer protection (sale of goods, hire-purchase, etc).
- \* Family Law, and in particular the law relating to divorce, separation and maintenance.
- \* The law relating to children including their custody, guardianship and adoption.
- \* Women's Rights.
- \* Defamation and Press Freedom.
- \* The establishment of the office of Ombudsman.
- \* Landlord and Tenant.
- \* Monopolies and Restrictive Practices.
- \* Company law.

Some of the above subjects are dealt with at greater length elsewhere in this Manifesto; some require a special word here.

### Equal Rights for Children

Much as the B.L.P. subscribes to the christian teachings relating to marriage, the Party supports as strongly the

principle that the nation must make equal provision for all its children, whether or not born in wedlock. Although the Succession Act 1975 has gone some way towards this end, it is the view of many lawyers that some of its provisions are very likely to lead to expensive unpleasant and time-consuming litigation. It is proposed to have a full review of this and related legislation and a new and comprehensive Status of Children Bill will be enacted to confer equal rights on all children, whether born in wedlock or not.

### Landlord and Tenant

Perhaps the most heart-rending result of the failure to up-date the law of Landlord and Tenant is the frequent occurrence over the years of the case where a tenant is put off land after having lived on it as a reasonable tenant for a considerable number of years, and then sees the land sold to a third party, very often a non-national real estate speculator. The B.L.P. feels that a formula can be devised whereby such tenants should be given the first refusal on a sale, without affecting the reasonable and legitimate rights of the landlord.

### General

It is the firm and uncompromising view of the B.L.P. that each and every citizen is entitled to make the frankest comments on the laws of his country. The Party does not believe that the citizen's involvement in the business of how the community is run should be confined to casting a vote every few years. Specifically, the B.L.P. will always welcome any constructive comments and criticisms on its policy of law reform, and will certainly not indulge in the uncouth behaviour of publicly abusing persons and bodies who accept an invitation to make comments on actual or proposed legislation.

The Party will also expand the legal aid scheme and will work towards the widest provision of full legal services at minimum cost and will aim to make such services free to the less privileged in our society.

## Protection of Citizens' Rights

It must have been disturbing to most citizens of this community to hear certain D.L.P. politicians from time to time talk glibly about the contents of supposedly private telephone conversations between third parties. The B.L.P. does not support and will not condone any of the methods of a police state. It is absolutely essential to remove the fears of the public in this regard, and to ensure that the rights enshrined in the Constitution are not an empty sham.

Closely related problems arise out of the fact that more and more administrative decisions are being made which work injustice to citizens but for which there is no adequate provision for relief to be obtained in the Laws Courts. Over the past few years more and more decisions which seriously affect and restrict individual freedoms have been relegated to the discretion of Ministers.

There has been a rapid extension of the powers of government to interfere with and intervene in all aspects of the day-to-day life of the individual citizen, without any corresponding and sufficient checks and balances to prevent the abuse of these powers. The exercise of these powers is very often cloaked in secrecy, and no information is given or can be demanded about decisions which vitally affect the average citizen. Social justice



## Your Candidate (St. Philip South)

**ROUSE, Keith Augustus, 44.**  
 Educated at St. George Boys' School; Modern High School; Combermere School; New York School of Mechanical Dentistry (Diploma).  
 Spent several years in the United Kingdom where he did national service as a member of the Medical Corps (1955-58); was a member of the British Labour Party and Chairman of the South East Leicester Constituency Branch; pursued a diploma course in union organisation with the National Council of the Labour College in Britain in 1961.  
 Keith Rouse joined the BLP in 1958 while in England. He observed the operation of the National Health Service in that country and looks forward to the implementation of the BLP's programme for reform of the Health Services.  
 Candidate for St. Philip South.

demands a proper balance.

### Office of Ombudsman

It is the view of the B.L.P. that government should be as open as possible. With this in view, the Party proposes to establish the office of Ombudsman or Parliamentary Commissioner, with powers and duties to investigate alleged official abuses against the citizen, to report publicly on his findings and to take steps to alleviate particular grievances and/or to obtain satisfaction for the citizen. Generally too the Party will establish more adequate machinery to see that the fundamental rights and liberties are enforced and citizens are given legal aid at the State's expense to defend such rights.

### Official Secrets Act

A B.L.P. administration will also review the scope and working of the Official Secrets Act to ensure that freedom of information is not unnecessarily limited. Simultaneously, it will safeguard individual privacy and guard against wire tapping, which will be made a criminal offence.

## Broadcasting and the Media

The Party's policy will be directed towards ensuring that the constitutional right of freedom to receive and communicate ideas and information is given real meaning. The Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation will be rid of partisan political influence and patronage. Barbados Rediffusion Service Limited will

be encouraged to widen and localise its shareholding and will be rid of the the fear of having its licence cancelled whilst it pursues a policy of freedom of expression. Full freedom to use the broadcasting and television system will be given to all, subject only to safeguards for the rights of others.

The BLP will also:-

- \* Reorganise the Government Information Service to ensure that it performs its proper role and is rid of political interference in its day-to-day operation.
- \* Encourage the development of locally-owned independent newspapers and broadcasting services.
- \* Permit C.B.C. to play a more objective educational, cultural and informative role.
- \* Encourage political discussions on radio and television; and, with the concurrence of Parliament, the broadcasting of the proceedings of the Legislature.
- \* Restore to journalism true professionalism and assist journalists financially and otherwise in becoming better qualified.

The Party remains unalterably opposed to the ownership of the daily press by Government or quasi-governmental institutions.

## Charter for Women

Women constitute considerably more than half the population of Barbados. Yet of the working population only 39% are women; and still further there are

twice as many women unemployed as there are men. In general women hold the lowest paid jobs in the community and, in proportion to their numbers and educational attainments, they do not get their proper share of jobs or indeed of managerial and supervisory opportunities.

The B.L.P. has long recognised that in the area of women's rights, strong policy initiatives are required to end discrimination against women. During the last Parliament, the Party introduced a Bill to give the foreign husbands of Barbadian women the same rights as the foreign wives of Barbadian men to reside and work in Barbados. The D.L.P. Government voted against this measure.

The B.L.P. also twice introduced a resolution calling on the Government to set up a National Commission on the Status of Women with wide powers to inquire into and report on, with a view to legislative action, all areas of life in which women are discriminated against. The D.L.P. Government at first voted against the Resolution, thus delaying the inquiry; and only on the 26th March 1976, after the persistent efforts of the B.L.P., did the D.L.P. Government allow the Resolution to pass.

### The New Deal for Women

On its return to Office, the B.L.P. will provide the women of Barbados with a new deal and a charter of rights. The Party will:

- \* Establish on a permanent basis a National Commission on the Status of Women with powers to investigate all complaints of discrimination against women, and to keep under constant review and supervise and enforce all legislation and administrative decisions affecting women.
- \* Enact an Equal Pay Act so that women will receive equal pay for



## Your Candidate (Christ Church South Central)

ST. JOHN, Harold Bernard, 45.  
Educated at Boys' Foundation School; Harrison College; University College, London University (LL.B); Barrister-at-Law (Inner Temple); Queens Counsel (1969).  
Private legal practice since 1954 in Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean; Legal Adviser to Southern District Council; Member of Senate (1964-1966 and 1971-1976); Member of Parliament (1966-1971); Chairman of the BLP and Leader of the Opposition (1970-1971).  
Bernard St. John helped rebuild the BLP after its defeat of 1961. A man of vision and outstanding courage, he stands for integrity in public life. He is one of the BLP's leading thinkers who believes that the country urgently needs a change in direction.  
St. John is married and has three children.  
Candidate for Christ Church South Central.

equal work. This legislation will end discrimination against women at work and confer on the National Commission on the Status of Women the powers of an Equal Opportunities Commission.

- \* Enact a Sex Discrimination Bill to render as unlawful all kinds of sex discrimination and in particular discrimination on the grounds of marriage, and to remove over a wide range of the law all existing discriminatory rules and provisions (other than those which protect women). The proposals will cover employment, training, education, housing and the provision of goods, facilities and services (including mortgages, hire purchase and banking loans).
- \* Amend the Citizenship Act to give the children of Barbadian women the same rights as the children of Barbadian men, in particular to confer on such children an automatic right to Barbadian citizenship regardless of whether they are born on Barbadian soil or not, or in or out of wedlock.
- \* Amend the Immigration Act to give Barbadian women married to foreign husbands the same rights which Barbadian men married to foreign wives now have, namely that their husbands will as a matter of right (rather than at the whim and fancy of a Minister) be free to live and work in Barbados.
- \* Amend the Income Tax Act so as to grant wives the right to separate assessment in respect of their unearned incomes.
- \* Strengthen the Employment of Women (Maternity Leave) Act to grant a longer period of maternity leave and to ensure that during the leave period women will receive their full pay without any loss of rights, status or promotional entitlement.

ment.

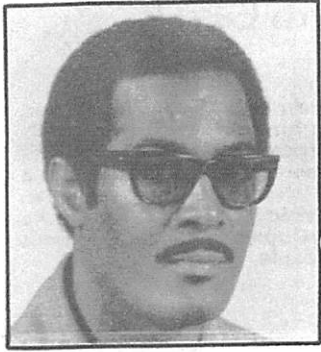
- \* Broaden the school curricula so as to reduce the distinction between boys' and girls' subjects; and extend vocational guidance facilities with the object of ending discrimination against girls at all levels of the educational system.
- \* Abolish the present discriminatory system of marking the scripts of boys and girls who sit the Common Entrance Examination to ensure that, until a satisfactory alternative qualifying system is implemented, a girl will no longer have to obtain a higher mark than a boy to qualify for entrance to Secondary Schools.
- \* Increase educational opportunities for girls, including further education.
- \* Extend nursery education and day care facilities, as set out elsewhere in this Manifesto.
- \* Reform family law to institute a fairer system and to give women (both in common law unions and in wedlock) a better deal in relation to property acquired during the union and to strengthen each partner's right to occupy the matrimonial home, to use and enjoy the basic household goods and to share equal guardianship and custodial rights, subject to the overriding consideration of the welfare of the children.
- \* Legislate for equality of treatment in all aspects of social security.
- \* Broaden the criteria for appointments to public boards and appoint more women to such Boards to ensure their adequate representation.
- \* Compel all Government Departments and public or quasi-public Boards or Corporations to introduce in all their contracts a "no - discrimination - on - grounds - of - Sex" clause.

- \* Improve the provisions for the enforcement of maintenance payments for children and for divorced or deserted wives and immediately seek the advice of the National Commission on the Status of Women on the need to provide for the maintenance of partners in a common law union.
- \* Support an improved and comprehensive free family planning service and, after consultation with the Church, Women's Organizations and other appropriate bodies, reform the existing family planning laws.
- \* Direct the National Commission on the Status of Women to advise urgently what steps must be taken to assist and improve the lot of the One-Parent family.

### Equal Partners

All the above measures will be given priority treatment in the determination of the B.L.P. to challenge and stamp out the out-dated prejudice of the narrow-minded. Other proposals in our Manifesto - particularly those about consumer protection and employment - will help to improve the quality of life for all the women of our nation. We are determined to see women take their rightful place as equal partners sharing the sweets and not merely shouldering the burdens.

By these measures we hope to create the right legal framework and atmosphere for a genuine and impressive thrust forward. We recognise, however, that in this task we will need the full co-operation of our male citizens; and our women themselves must make full use of the law and all opportunities now and later to be opened for them. Only in this way will genuine equality between the sexes be obtained.



## Your Candidate (St. Philip North)

SIMMONS, David Anthony Cathcart, 36.  
Member of Parliament 1976.

Educated at St. Philip's Boys' School; The Lodge School (Head Boy 1960); The London School of Economics and Political Science (LLB. LL.M.); Barrister-at-Law (Lincoln's Inn). Member of Barbados League of Young Socialists; Executive Member West Indies Students' Union (London); Law Lecturer Woolwich Polytechnic (England) and The University of the West Indies (Cave Hill).

David Simmons scored the most impressive political victory in decades when he won the St. Philip North Bye-Election for the B.L.P. on February 28, 1976. Barbadians were impressed as much by the high level of his campaign as by his outstanding courage. In less than six months he has proved to be an outstanding representative of his constituency.

Simmons is married and has two children.  
Candidate for St. Philip North.

## Citizenship and Immigration

The B.L.P. has long maintained that there is need for a rational framework of citizenship law and for an immigration policy that is liberal, humane and settled, subject only to the over-riding consideration that foreigners must not be allowed unrestricted entry into Barbados in order to take up jobs which Barbadian nationals can do.

The Party maintains that the regulation of immigration should not be left entirely to the "discretion" of a Minister, since there has been clear evidence over the years that such "discretion" has not been exercised on any set rules, but on a consideration of personal contacts and the medium through whom the application has been made. Instead, the B.L.P. insists, and has for long insisted, that the rules for admission of immigrants should be settled and published so that an intending applicant may know as clearly as possible what the requirements are.

For example, there can be, or should be, no dispute that prospective immigrants with special skills should be encouraged and should not be unnecessarily limited in the time they are allowed to reside and work in Barbados. The same applies to persons who are bringing in capital for investment in Barbados, particularly in labour-intensive exercises.

In addition, there are in Barbados a number of persons from Commonwealth Caribbean countries who have made their home here and have become very useful and industrious members of the com-

munity. Some of these immigrants have not entered Barbados in strict accordance with the law. The B.L.P. will grant an amnesty to those who entered Barbados prior to the 1st September, 1975, on the same principle of humanity on which a B.L.P. government (as outlined in the External Affairs Section of this Manifesto) will make strong representation to the U.S. government to advance the cut-off date for illegal entry by Caribbean immigrants into the U.S. to a date as close as possible to 1976. A B.L.P. government will also be as lenient as possible (having regard to the interests of Barbados) to citizens of countries represented in CARICOM or in any other similar economic or political grouping of which Barbados is a member.

### Residents

The immigration legislation introduced by the D.L.P. does not go far enough; nor does that party's recent declaration (made under constant B.L.P. pressure in Parliament and elsewhere) that in the past two (2) years all foreign husbands of Barbadian women who have applied have been granted status as "residents". This is no substitute for a right. A Minister's "discretion" can still be exercised against the applicant, as it has been in the past, because the applicant (or even his wife) has at some time said the "wrong" thing or associated with the "wrong" people.

As emphasised elsewhere in this Manifesto under the subject of Women's Rights, the B.L.P. is committed to the view that the following persons are entitled to citizenship as of right:

- \* Foreign husbands of Barbadian women.
- \* Children of Barbadian women, wherever born.

Legislation to give effect to this principle will be introduced at a very early date.

### Main Guidelines

The main guiding principles of the B.L.P. in enacting and administering its immigration and citizenship laws are and will be:

- \* The interests of Barbados (particularly economic development and including security).
- \* Reciprocity of treatment.
- \* Humanity.
- \* Openness of decision.
- \* Avoidance of opportunities for corruption.

The B.L.P. gives its commitment:

- \* To keep the laws relating to immigration and citizenship under constant review to ensure that they reflect the above principles.
- \* To publish (and amend from time to time as required) the rules on which immigration by foreigners will be allowed.
- \* To introduce legislation to provide for an amnesty for Commonwealth Caribbean citizens who entered Barbados prior to the 1st September, 1975.
- \* To legislate for the automatic acquisition of citizenship by the children of Barbadian women wherever born.

The modern Barbados has always been a multi-racial society. Our citizenship and immigration laws and practices will continue to be so structured and operated as to ensure and strengthen racial tolerance and harmony. The Barbados Labour Party will not tolerate racial discrimination in any form and repeats its unswerving commitment to equal treatment for all its citizens and residents regardless of colour, class or creed. The pursuit of such a policy in our domestic affairs will give us the moral authority to raise our voices and to pursue a policy internationally against racism, colonialism and imperialism abroad.

## Your Candidate (St. Michael North East)



**SISNETT, Laurisford Leroy, 35.**

Educated at St. Giles Boys' School; Modern High School; Career Academy, New York. Joined the Merchant Navy in 1960 to see the world and stayed on for eight years. His travels took him throughout North, Central and Latin America as well as Africa and the Far East.

In 1968 he pursued a course in broadcasting in the U.S.A. and became a credit reporter with a New York based firm. Joined CBC in 1970 as a news reporter and later became an announcer.

Leroy Sisnett is a prominent radio personality and enjoys unrivalled popularity among the young people of Barbados. He believes that at this stage of our development, the nation needs new men with new ideas, who will motivate and inspire our young people.

Sisnett is married.

Candidate for St. Michael North East.

## Workers' Rights

The advancement and the protection of the rights of the workers have always been main policy goals of the Barbados Labour Party. From its foundation the Party established a close and indissoluble relationship with the nation's workers and since then has done everything to advance the cause of the workers, regardless of whether they have been unionised or not. Several measures, including the Holidays With Pay Act and the Domestic Employees (Hours of Duty) Act, stand out as testimony of the Party's contribution in this field.

The Party remains committed to these goals; and proposes to take further positive action to involve workers in the ownership and the decision-making process of the economy.

### Strengthening Collective Bargaining

The Party is unswervingly committed to the principle of collective bargaining and will neither countenance nor be a party to any measure or act which undermines this process. That is why the Party condemns the recent action of the D.L.P. Government in its attack on this principle in the manner in which it dealt with the Civil Servants' and Teachers' salaries. The Party will strengthen the collective bargaining process and see that it applies both to the private and public sectors.

### A Positive Plan of Action

Besides strengthening and widening the scope of collective bargaining, the Party

will make provision for:

- \* The compulsory recognition of trade unions.
- \* The right of workers to belong to trade unions of their choice.
- \* the security of workers' jobs and their protection against unfair dismissals. Workers who are unfairly or unlawfully dismissed would have a right to be reinstated or alternatively adequately compensated.
- \* A proper and adequate level of wages below which no worker should be paid for his services.
- \* A comprehensive labour code.
- \* Longer periods of notice from employers in relation to dismissals and redundancies.
- \* An adequate period of notice of planned redundancies to be given by employers to workers and their trade union representatives and genuine consultations with the trade unions concerned before a redundancy can take place.
- \* The retraining of redundant workers.
- \* Statutory rights for trade union representatives in relation to safety measures.
- \* Three weeks' holiday with pay for workers after one year's continuous service and four weeks after three years of continuous service.
- \* Better standards of health and safety and workers' facilities at the work place.
- \* Adequate compensation for industrial injuries, and insurance cover for the worker whilst on the way to and from his work place.
- \* Publication and prominent display by the employer at the work place of all legislation and governmental provisions which protect or affect workers' rights.
- \* An amendment to the National Insurance Act to provide that a worker who becomes ill will

receive his wages from the employer during his period of sickness and the employer will in turn be refunded by the National Insurance Office on the expiry of the period of illness.

Most of the above proposals will be incorporated in a comprehensive Employment Protection Bill which will reform and modernise existing legislation and provide a charter of new workers.

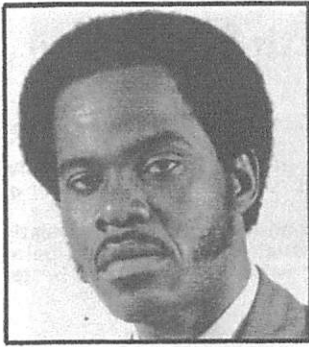
The Severance Payments Act will be simplified and all provisions which work to the disadvantage of the worker removed. The categories of persons at present outside of the scope of the Act, such as casual employees of Government, will in future be allowed to enjoy the full benefits of the Act. A specified minimum time within which an employer must pay severance to the worker will be included in the new Severance Payments Act.

### Industrial Democracy

and

### Ownership of Nation's Wealth

If the workers are to be motivated to increase their productivity then they must be made to feel part of the whole process of management. The B.L.P. considers that if productivity is to be increased and the cause of economic and social justice furthered, then industrial democracy, in both the public and private sectors, must be extended. After due consultation with workers' and employers' representatives and all other interested parties, the Party will institute appropriate measures to achieve full worker participation and representation in management. The present owners of capital will be encouraged by tax incentives and otherwise to institute profit sharing and share incentive schemes so as to broaden the basis of ownership of the country's wealth.



## Your Candidate (St. George South)

TULL, Louis Randall, 38.

Member of the Senate since 1971.

Educated at St. Giles Boys' School, Harrison College, University of Manitoba (B.A.); Canadian Government Scholarship to St. John's College, Oxford University (M.A.); Barrister-at-Law (Inner Temple).

Founder Member of The League of Young Socialists; President of The West Indies Students Association and Member of the External Affairs Committee, University of Manitoba; former Second Vice Chairman of The Barbados Labour Party.

Louis Tull has enjoyed a distinguished academic career. He gained a first class honours degree in Classics from the University of Manitoba and the faculty's gold medal. At Oxford he read Law. Last year he was made an Honorary Fellow of St. John's College, University of Manitoba. As a Member of the Senate he has made important contributions to every major debate in the last five years.

Tull is married and has three children.

Candidate for St. George South.

### Manpower Research Unit

In its determination to improve the conditions of the country's workers and to plan properly for their future, the Party must have available to it at all times reliable information on the work force. It will therefore forthwith establish a Manpower Research Unit and introduce additional Labour Offices throughout the country to monitor job opportunities, assist in vocational guidance, formulate training programmes, identify the incidence of unemployment and assist in administering corrective measures. More and better qualified staff will be recruited for the Department of Labour.

### Support for Workers' Organisations

The Party will fully support financially and otherwise Workers' Organizations in their educational and social development programmes.

All I.L.O. Conventions relevant to Barbados will be speedily implemented.

The country will only be put on the road to full economic recovery, the achievement of full employment and a higher standard of living, with the full support of labour.

At all times the Party will consult with all workers' organizations before implementing measures which affect workers' interests. In the execution of the above programme, employers will, where appropriate, be consulted as well.

## External Affairs

The administration of external affairs and the conception of foreign policy are important tools to be employed in the

achievement of our national objectives. In many ways, a country's approach to its external affairs is an extension and a reflection of its domestic aims and aspirations.

Up to the present, there has been no such direction in the guidance of our overseas affairs which appear to be conducted on an "ad hoc" basis.

The B.L.P. sees the necessity to assist (ideally, in unison with other Commonwealth Caribbean Countries) in moving the world away from a State where it is dominated by power elites for their own benefit to a world of co-operation among all peoples on the basis of dignity and mutual respect, raising its voice and pursuing a policy in support of the fight against racism, colonialism, imperialism and dictatorship of all kinds, and any of the other pathological social conditions which reduce men to the level of playthings of other men. The Party is convinced that Barbados can do so without having to emulate all the expensive trappings of larger and richer countries in trying to become a prominent figure parading on the world political stage.

The B.L.P. is committed to the view that the greater emphasis in the planning, direction and administration of our external affairs should be on this arm of government as an instrument for creating more jobs for Barbadians in Barbados, by assisting to promote Barbados' tourism and to attract more development capital into Barbados, securing employment opportunities for and protecting our citizens in other parts of the world, and obtaining for Barbados the best possible terms of trade. Specifically the functions of our missions should include exploring new sources of cheaper goods, safeguarding and promoting the sale and marketing of sugar and its by-products and finding markets for our other manufactured goods.

In this way, the overseas offices of

Ministry of External Affairs are seen not as pockets isolated physically and conceptually from the day-to-day government of Barbados, but as essential and integral parts of the development process of Barbados and Barbadians, working in close liaison with other ministries of government.

An excellent current example of the way in which an overseas mission can function in the "non-political" way outlined above is in making the strongest possible representations to the U.S. authorities to advance, to a date as close as possible to 1976, the cut-off date for amnesty for illegal Barbadian immigrants. Such immigrants to the U.S.A. have always made an important contribution to the economy of Barbados; and significant success in such representations would at last give the Barbadian taxpayer some tangible solace for the comparatively immense expenditure now gobbled up by overseas missions.

### Cost of Foreign Service

The B.L.P. has made the point time and time again that no greater fraud has ever been perpetrated by a political party against the people it represents than by the D.L.P. in its estimation of the cost of overseas representation. The figure of \$500,000.00 in 1966 has increased by leaps and bounds to a present projection of \$6,950,000.00. The B.L.P. feels that the taxpayers of Barbados are justified, particularly in these times of rampant inflation, in demanding value for money.

The Party is convinced that a thorough re-examination and re-orientation of our External Affairs is necessary to enable us to achieve the above aims without increasing the cost of our foreign service. Stringent economy measures will be applied and the foreign affairs budget will be controlled to effect savings and increase efficiency - but



## Your Candidate (St. Michael North Central)

**TRUSS, Aaron, 29. Businessman.**  
Educated at the Barbados Academy; Côte de Neiges Commercial College, Montreal and Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, Toronto, Canada.  
Member of the National Executive Committee of The Barbados Labour Party; was General Secretary during 1975. Prominent member of the Barbados Karate Association and holder of a first degree purple belt.

Aaron Truss is a dynamic young man with tremendous drive and energy. He is greatly concerned with the problems of young people and feels that enough attention is not being paid to their problems. In particular he advocates the urgent creation of more and better recreational facilities throughout the nation.

Truss is married and has one son.  
Candidate for St. Michael North Central.

without retrenchment of permanent foreign service staff, who will be re-deployed, where appropriate, in other more effective spheres of government.

### The Caribbean and Caricom

The B.L.P. will strive to ensure that there is the greatest possible co-operation between Barbados and other Commonwealth Caribbean Countries generally, but particularly in terms of inter-regional trade. The Party remains committed to the principle that, especially on grounds of our historical, social and economic development, such co-operation can be nothing but beneficial to these territories, provided that the benefits to be derived therefrom can be seen to justify the sacrifice being made. The Party will continue to strive for the attainment of a common approach to problems that are external to the region. It will seek to deepen the integration movement in the Commonwealth Caribbean without abandoning its intention to re-negotiate the CARICOM treaty arrangements.

### The O.A.S.

The Party is not yet convinced that continued association with the O.A.S. is bringing any tangible benefits. The Party is however interested in promoting a wider Latin American and Caribbean grouping. It will critically and thoroughly examine Barbados' relationship with the O.A.S. in an effort to determine our future association with that body.

### The United Nations

The Party will continue to support

the United Nations Organization since the Party believes that this body offers a means whereby small independent states, such as our own, can make their voices heard and their influence felt in international affairs. Though imperfect, the U.N. offers the best hope of maintaining international peace and security and of promoting social and economic progress.

### An International Regime for the Seas

The Party will extend the country's territorial waters to twelve miles. It will seek to preserve the nation's sea resources. It will participate fully in the Law of the Sea Conference and work in unison with our Commonwealth Caribbean partners to achieve a just and reasonable international regime for the seas.

### Main Guidelines

The general guidelines of the Party's foreign policy are:-

- \* The need to promote the vital trade interests of Barbados.
- \* The need to publicise Barbados abroad so as to attract capital development and investment as well as an expansion in the tourist trade.
- \* The need to deepen the process of Caribbean integration without detriment to the standards of living of our citizens; whilst at the same time pursuing a common external policy in its relations with third countries, thereby creating a stronger West Indian influence on world affairs.
- \* The strengthening of international organizations dedicated to the promotion of human rights, the rule of law and the peaceful settlement of disputes.

- \* The pursuit, through unilateral and bilateral negotiations and means, of the overthrow of all forms of racial discrimination and colonialism.
- \* The cementing of closer relations with the Commonwealth and the U.S.A., without any sacrifice of the national interests or sovereignty of Barbados or the freedom of the country to direct its own foreign policy.
- \* The prevention of the use of Barbadian soil and airspace for the invasion of or attack on other territories.
- \* The need to minimise the cost of our external relations.

At all times Barbadian foreign policy will be safely based on the ideals of morality, equality and justice - the same considerations which of necessity will influence our domestic policy.

## Defence and Security

Barbados should have no territorial ambitions. Whilst recognising its crucial geographical significance to the North American and Latin American continents there is no reason why Barbados should attract foreign invasion or intervention. The Party will not commit our country to any foreign defence pacts. Internally, the defence forces will be limited to such as are adequate to maintain law and order. There will be no need to maintain any standing army or other defence force. Externally, the Party will work towards the elimination of all armaments of war and the achievement of total world peace.



## Your Candidate (Christ Church North Central)

WARD, Charles Carlisle Maurice, 47.

Educated at The Barbados Academy.

Has had a varied career as storekeeper, customs clerk, pay clerk.

He became Sales Manager of Emtage Electrical (Appliances Department) and in 1959 opened his own business, Central Trading Company at Victoria Street. He sold out in 1961 to enter the more challenging fields of real estate and property development and is now the owner and manager of The Tower Hotel. Member of the National Executive Committee of the BLP since 1970.

Maurice Ward is a man who believes passionately that democratic systems must be preserved in Barbados and is disturbed by any threats of a One Party state. As a hotelier he is familiar with all aspects of the tourist industry.

Ward is married and has two children.

Candidate for Christ Church North Central.

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## Conclusion

We have outlined to you the major policy objectives which a Barbados Labour Party Government would consider essential to its task of giving hope to the people of this country. Our policies are geared to provide new directions in every area of Barbadian life and this we consider absolutely necessary at the present time.

Barbados today is experiencing perhaps its saddest time. Scandal attaches to the highest places. Our people are experiencing unemployment at an unprecedented level. The basic amenities of life are not available to our citizens and, when they are, they are available at too high a price. The cost of living rises unchecked. Workers are denied much of the basic protection which their counterparts in other countries enjoy as a matter of course; our women and many of our children continue to be treated as second class citizens. The educational system fails to provide adequately for the children of school age; and for the young people generally, there is nothing to look forward to but a life of unemployment and frustration. Even the privacy of the individual is under attack, as powerful persons indulge themselves with telephone tapping. Indeed, the Society is so badly managed at the present time that the individual is almost persuaded to think that he is not entitled to natural dignity and that he should wait at the table of some petty politician until a crumb of patronage should fall.

This is the situation which the BLP dedicates itself to eradicate. It is this Party that began the quest almost 40 years ago to create conditions in which men and women should be able to enjoy life of a quality second to none in any part of the world. We have never admitted that the absence of abundant material wealth should necessarily mean that life should be ugly and degrading. Yet, after our people are daily faced with no jobs, food of poor quality and prohibitive cost, expensive medical services, and poor housing conditions, it is difficult to see how our citizens could feel that life is really worth living. While this situation continues our people are forced to make all sorts of sacrifices.

It is in these circumstances that we have outlined our programme. It is a programme designed to give new hope to every Barbadian man and woman, a programme to lift this country out of the depths of despair and despondency and to launch it on an exciting new course of real hope and opportunity.





## Your Candidate ( St. Michael South West )

WEEKES, Norma. 47.

Educated at Hindsbury Girls' School and Lynch's Secondary School.

Professional Secretary. Worked with the late Ernest D. Mottley for 25 years and became closely involved in local Government affairs. Member of the Barbados Labour Party's National Executive Committee for some years, she is also a prominent member of the Party's Women's League.

Norma Weekes is greatly concerned about the problems of youth and senior citizens. As a result of her experience with the local Government system, she feels that there should be greater and easier contact between Government and people. She believes that the BLP's policies are in the interests of the overburdened taxpayers and the community as a whole and that the time has come for a change. She looks forward to the day when there will be a Sex Discrimination Bill to enforce equal opportunities in all spheres for women.

Miss Weekes' main interest is welfare work.  
Candidate for St. Michael South West.

Our Manifesto therefore emphasises:-

- Jobs for our people
- Reduction in the cost of living
- A free national health service
- A charter for young people
- Abolition of the distinction between legitimate and illegitimate children
- A new deal for our women
- New rights for our workers
- Removal of the 5% Sales Tax ✓
- Abolition of the Trade Tax
- Increased Income Tax Allowances
- Housing for all our people
- A chance for plantation tenants to own the spots they live on
- Improved conditions for the Aged, the Poor and the Handicapped
- A modern Education plan
- Abolition of the Eleven Plus ✓
- Raising the school leaving age to 16 ✓
- Free school uniforms
- Honest Government

- \* Ours is the programme for all Barbadians.
- \* Put Barbados First
- \* Vote the Great Combination
- \* Barbados and the Barbados Labour Party