

ABSTRACTS

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SPECIAL ISSUE: Eastern Caribbean Integration: A Rekindling of the Little Eight?

The Confederation Beginning

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The Agony of the Eight¹

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Prospects for Caribbean Political Unity²

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Caribbean Integration: The Future Relationship between Barbados and the OECS³

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Our Caribbean Civilisation: Retrospect and Prospect⁴

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The Quest for Secession in Nevis: Just Another Political Game?

by Clifford E. Griffin

The present wisdom is that separatist/secessionist movements are the product of plural societies. In plural societies, subnational group identity can be constructed on the basis of racial/ethnic, linguistic, religious, cultural and other politically salient characteristics. These characteristics can become the foundation of separatist/secessionist movements. However, this analysis, which focuses on St. Kitts and Nevis, demonstrates that homogenized societies can produce subnational group identity with separatist/secessionist agendas as well.

¹ This essay was first published in 1965 and has been reprinted with the kind permission of the Barbados Advocate Co. Ltd.

² Keynote address to the Symposium by the Clement Payne Movement on Caribbean Unity, April 1998.

³ Public Address sponsored by the Soroptimist International of Barbados, March 9, 1998.

⁴ Lecture sponsored by the Institute of Social and Economic Research, UWI, (Cave Hill), 1998.

These factors include central government leadership style, geographical delineation, and economic structure. The theoretical argument presented here has implications for other homogenized, multi-island states.

Pages: 75-89

Key words: secession, separatist movements, constitutional reform, political party, federation.

Volume 23 No. 2 June 1998

The Determinants of Growth in a Small Open Economy: Barbados

by Denny Lewis and Roland Craigwell

This study examines the determinants of growth in the small open economy of Barbados. It utilises arguments from the endogenous growth theories including human capital, domestic policy and external forces. It employs the cointegration/ECM framework which imposes short run dynamics on the long run situation. The evidence supports the arguments regarding the significant role that domestic policy (that is, government policy) plays in the growth process. Our results also lend some support to the role of external forces as a determinant of growth, as suggested by a number of recent growth studies.

Pages: 1-29

Key words: Human capital, growth, regressions, open economies, capital accumulation.

Fact or Fiction? The Reagan-Thatcher 'Special Relationship' and the Falklands/Grenada Crises

by Dave Benjamin

The Falklands/Malvinas and Grenada crises in 1982 and 1983 respectively were defining features of the 'special relationship' between the United States and the United Kingdom. They posed a challenge to institutional co-operation between the governments and militaries threatening co-operation, which had been entrenched since the Second World War. They also tested the personal - generational and ideological - relationship between President Reagan and Prime Minister Thatcher. More than anything else, the crises revealed beyond doubt, the true extent of unilateralism in American foreign policy decision-making and the conduct of foreign relations.

Pages: 30-46

Key words: Diplomacy, foreign policy, alliance, unilateralism, strategic.

A Linear Programming Approach to the School Assignment Problem in Barbados

by Stephen Harewood

In this paper linear programming is used to allocate students living in the population census districts in Barbados to secondary schools. The resulting solutions lead to allocations where the majority of students are within short distances of the schools to which they are assigned. The methodology is also used to determine those areas where there is excess capacity and those where there is insufficient capacity. The paper also illustrates the flexibility of the linear programming approach, in particular with respect to its ability to incorporate various social and political considerations.

Pages: 47-65

Key words: Linear programming, Education Planning.

COMMUNICATIONS

Building on Eastern Caribbean Confederation: The Prospects for Wider Caribbean Political Union⁵

by David Thompson, MP

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Address to the First Meeting of the Joint Barbados/OECS Task Force⁶

by Lester B. Bird, MP

Pages: 73-78.

Volume 23 No. 3 September 1998

Fostering Improved Terms of Trade for ACP States: An Evaluation of the European Union's Green Paper

by Frank W. Alleyne

The European Union Green Paper constitutes a watershed in economic thought concerning cooperation between developed and lesser developed countries. It attempts to bring an end to preferential trade between the EU and its ACP partners, and replace the Lomé conditionalities with WTO rules which are more restrictive and less favourable to the ACP States. The thinking embodied in the Green Paper threatens to destroy ACP solidarity by proposing to deal with ACP States on a regional basis. The Green Paper is consistent with EU policy statements during the last five years concerning future relations with the ACP and lesser developed countries. This evaluation shows that the Green Paper's treatment of ACP States development failure is superficial and unbalanced, a consequence of which is wrong conclusions.

Pages: 1-32

Key words: trade liberalization, trade reciprocity, differential treatment, flexibility, partnership.

Social Studies and Citizenship Education in the Caribbean: Problems and Potentials

by Glenford D. Howe

Throughout the Caribbean there has been an escalation in public and official debates about what seems to be an upsurge in deviant behaviour among the youth. Consequently, governments have been turning to the educational system to assist by, for example, implementing what some call citizenry education in order to help alleviate the problem. In all, of this social studies is regarded as having a vital role since its specific purpose for being on the curriculum is to impart citizenship education.

This paper examines the role of social studies in achieving citizenship education in the Caribbean. It concludes that if social studies is to effectively achieve the critical goal of citizenship education in the Caribbean context certain fundamental changes will need to be made to the way the subject is conceptualized, supported, financed, perceived, taught, and examined, among other things.

Pages: 33-55

⁵ Text of address delivered at the Conference on Caribbean Political Unity sponsored by the Clement Payne Movement, April 24-25, 1998.

⁶ The First Meeting of the Joint Barbados/OECS Task Force in Antigua on April 22, 1988.

Key words: social studies, curriculum, knowledge transmission, citizenship, democracy.

Attributions of Absenteeism in Trinidad And Tobago: an Exploratory Study

by Helena Addae

This paper examines the attributions of absenteeism in Trinidad and Tobago. The results revealed similarities and differences in reasons provided by employees and managers. It was found that since organizations accepted illness as a legitimate reason for absenteeism, it was the predominant reason reported by employees for their absenteeism. However, stress was cited as the number one actual reason for employee absenteeism. It is pointed out that in studies conducted in North America and elsewhere, employees also cited illness as the prominent reason for their absenteeism. The paper concludes with recommendations for future research and human resources management.

Pages: 56-77

Keywords: employee and managerial absenteeism, role differentiation, organisation.

COMMUNICATION

***Forum Non Conveniens* Strikes Again: American Court Closes its Door to Eastern Caribbean Litigants**

by Winston Anderson

Pages: 77-87.

Volume 23 No. 4 December 1998

The St. Lucia Labour Party Electoral Victory of 1997 and the Decline of the Conservative Movements

by Douglas Midgett

This paper takes a critical look at the 1997 General Election of the St. Lucia, chronologically following as well the road to electoral success of the St. Lucia Labour Party. It consequently argues that a modernized campaign strategy, a commitment to social programmes and the promise of good governance constitute a winning formula for the broad electorate – once it steers clear of conservative U.S. liberal governance and leftist impulses.

Pages: 1-24

Key words: Electoral system, party politics, campaign, manifesto, candidates.

What Do We Know About Corporate Turnarounds?

by Rolph N. S. Balgobin and Naresh R. Pandit

Corporate declines are widely observed in capitalist economies, and statistics on business failure suggest that the problem of how to engineer recovery has not yet been resolved by either academics or practitioners. The field has been studied more intensively over the last two decades, and a clearer picture has emerged about the actions taken in achieving a turnaround, but there is still some ambiguity about factors which affect the turnaround as well as the process by which such a turnaround occurs.

Using Pettigrew's Content-Context-Process model for assessing the state of knowledge in a field, this paper asks some simple questions of the literature and attempts to improve the general understanding of corporate turnarounds through answering them. From this the paper identifies areas in which there is need for further work if our understanding of turnaround is to be further developed for the improvement of management practice globally and in the Caribbean in particular.

Pages: 25-39

Keywords: Management, firm environment, turnaround, employee, productivity.

A Vote for Voting 'At Large' in the British Virgin Islands: Constitutional Reform in a British Territory

by Howard A. Fergus

This article examines the introduction of voting 'at large' in the BVI – a system whereby the entire electorate votes to return one or more representatives to parliament. A study of the proposal and implementation led to the conclusion that it may well be more suitable for the small British Overseas Territories in the Caribbean than the usual constituency voting and the first-past-the-post system, for instance. The article also establishes the existence of a willingness to move away from some aspects of the Westminster model in an effort to generate electoral and constitutional reforms which are more appropriate to the culture of the BVI and by extension to similar Caribbean micro-states.

Pages: 40-55

Key words: electoral arrangements, policies, voting 'at large', disproportionality, parliament.

COMMENTARIES

Projecting the Demand for Economists in the Caribbean: The Use of Labour Market Signalling Techniques⁷

by Andrew S. Downes

Pages: 56-69.

The Global and the Local: Social Sciences in the Caribbean

by Ian Boxill

Pages: 70-74.

⁷ This is a revised version of a presentation made at a workshop on "The Demand for Economists in the Caribbean in the 21st Century" sponsored by the Department of Economics, UWI, St. Augustine. I would like to thank the participants for their comments, especially Dennis Pantin, Shelton Nicholls and Al Francis. The comments of a referee and the Managing Editor of this **Journal** were useful.