

Shelby Walker



**The Promises  
we make...**

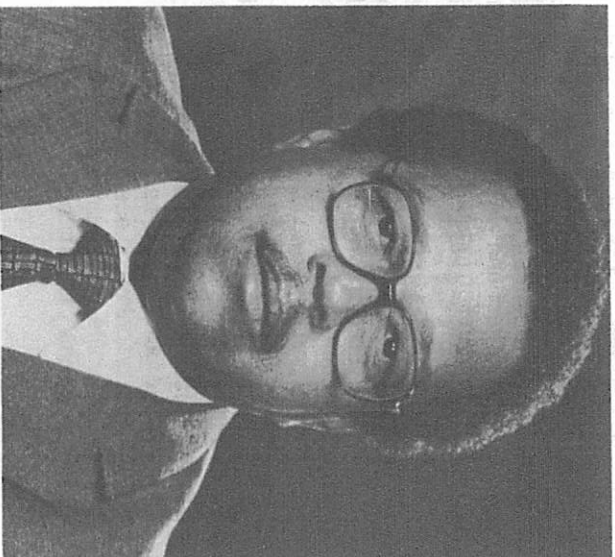
**WE PERFORM**



# **Promises & Performance 1981-1986**



**And Keep Barbados First**



## FOREWORD

Barbados has since 1981 been faced with very formidable and complex economic difficulties. Like all small, exporting countries, it could not escape the consequences of the severe world recession which occurred between 1981 and 1984, and which brought in its wake a slow down in world trade, steep increases in interest rates, major changes in exchange rates and a mass rise in unemployment across the globe. Our difficulties were compounded by the hard economic times experienced by our main trading partners in Caricom; a development which so reduced the trade in manufactured goods within the region as to cause widespread unemployment.

In the face of these difficulties, the Barbados Labour Party has indeed enhanced its reputation for sound economic management. We moved early to put in place a programme with the IMF and successfully took the country through that programme without having to devalue or cut our social programmes as has happened elsewhere.

The Government has also carefully managed the foreign exchange resources available to Barbados. In an age when better endowed economies have had to resort to desperate measures such as debt rescheduling, and even indeed, when there is some talk of reneging on international obligations altogether, it is a great credit to the Barbados Labour Party Government that it has been able to keep our debt payments to modest levels, has continued to meet all of our international obligations on time and ensured that the country paid its way in the world. This performance is all the more remarkable when account is taken of the fact that this performance was attained in a period when sources of grants and concessional loans were all but closed off to Barbados.

Over the past five years, the BLP has also been called upon to put in place measures to shore up the viability of the private sector. It has not flinched in this exercise, whether it has taken the form of assisting the sugar industry, small business, non-sugar agriculture, tourism or manufacturing. The brave facts surrounding this experience are set out in this document.

It must also be stressed that the Government did not allow the existence of economic difficulties to deter it from executing programmes which will benefit our island over the long term. Future generations will marvel that the Cement Plant, Heywoods, our main Highways, our Polyclinics and a number of new secondary and primary schools were all built during the difficult times through which we have just passed. The present generation will already be familiar with the benefits which have ensued from a Government which combined vision with humanity to increase its spending on education, health, welfare, programmes for the old, the needy and the disadvantaged, despite the difficulties we have faced.

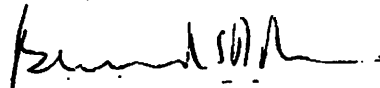
Over the past five years, the Barbados Labour Party also found the means to reduce the level of taxes on the poor, create incentives to stimulate savings in our credit unions, provide incentives to stimulate exports, increase wages and pensions, introduce unemployment benefits and generally improve the quality of life in our land. We have not banned an import and have lived up to every agreement we have entered into with our Caricom partners.

The Party must also take great pride in having substantially reduced the rate of inflation to the point where by 1985 prices increased at a slower rate than ever in our history.

As we go into 1986, the evidence is clear that the programmes embarked upon by Government to reduce unemployment are beginning to take effect and we look forward to the renewed strength of our tourism, manufacturing, agricultural and construction industries to provide lasting and effective solutions to this problem.

A sober stock taking would show that only the angels could have done better. We have had to face the same conditions as our neighbours in the region, with far less to play with, and we have shown that not only can we do better than societies of equivalent circumstances, but that we can make things better for all Barbadians.

We invite you therefore to analyse this document of our performance during the past five years with a sense of pride and the confidence that after doing so you will remain with us in our common march towards even further progress.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'H.B. St. John', with a stylized flourish at the end.

H.B. St. John

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# Promises Performance

## MACHINERY OF GOVERNMENT

Increase the Opposition seats in the Senate. Provide for the recall of Governor-General's Senators.

Since a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority is required to make the necessary Constitutional changes which would have allowed the implementation of these proposals it was not possible to implement them because of the Opposition's lack of support.

The Party will also improve the facilities of Parliament.

The transferral of General Post Office operations to new headquarters at Cheapside has coincided with the refurbishing of Parliament. Already considerable progress has been made on replacing and restoring the roof. The major refurbishing to follow will greatly improve the efficiency of Parliament by providing better conditions for the Members and staff of Parliament.

## ECONOMIC POLICY AND TAXATION

The policy of emphasis on high levels of construction activity to prime the economic pump will be continued.

A variety of incentives were introduced to achieve this goal. In 1983 the repair allowance on ancient buildings was increased from 4% to 10%. In 1984 the allowance on mortgage interest was increased from \$7,200 to \$9,060 and increased to \$12,000 in 1986; the Income Tax allowance on the repair of historic houses was increased from 10% to 25%; a \$1 million Fund was established to make loans available at easy rates for the repair of listed properties and in cases where premises are converted into residential rental units, an initial allowance against Income Tax of 40% of the conversion cost was granted. In 1985, a grant of 1% of the improved value of commercial properties was given as a building incentive; all lending for housing related activity including repairs and bridging loans was exempted from credit restrictions; residential mortgages increased from \$188 million in 1982 to \$224.7 in 1984. Of this the contribution of the Government owned Barbados Mortgage Finance Company increased from \$43.2 million to \$52.6 million. The 1985 Budget put \$32 million into housing development in addition to the USAID programme established in 1983 to inject \$20 million into housing development for families with income less than \$16,000 a year.

Manufacturing, tourism development and agricultural expansion will continue as the three pronged approach to structural development of the economy.

Government spent over \$52 million on the development of trade and industry since 1981. In 1983, the Central Bank established an Industrial Credit Fund of \$21 million to provide financing for manufacturing and other enterprises. Over \$11.9 had been committed by the end of 1984. In 1985 special incentives were provided to promote the growth of extra-regional exports: an allowance of 150% of all expenses incurred in developing markets outside Caricom; an investment allowance of 40% on the purchase of new capital equipment for companies which sell at least 10% of their output outside Caricom and the maximum rebate of tax on extra-regional sales was increased from 50% to 80%. To assist manufacturers in cash flow difficulties, the BDB refinanced some \$2.6 million in loans to industry between 1983 and 1985. Loans by the BDB to manufacturing firms rose from \$5.6 million in 1980 to \$33 million in 1985. Of this amount loans to small manufacturers increased from \$379,000 in 1980 to \$1.3 million in 1985. The Credit Insurance and Guarantee Schemes and the Pre and Post Shipment Financing Facilities maintained by the Central Bank to assist with the credit needs of manufacturers were expanded. At December 1985, 45 Post Shipment policies were in force to the tune of \$19 million, with 10 Pre Shipment guarantees totalling \$2.5 million.

# Promises Performance

Over \$60 million of public funds were used to promote the development of tourism between 1982 and 1985. In 1984, hotels were allowed to purchase all materials and equipment needed to refurbish properties free of duties. Over \$8 million in concessions were granted. Water rates payable by hotels were also reduced in 1984. To assist in easing the cash flow problems of hotels the BDB, between 1983 and 1985 refinanced loans of \$5.2 million made by commercial banks to hotels. Loans by the BDB, to finance hotel and apartment construction increased from \$16.3 million at the end of 1980 to \$35 million in 1985. Hotels were allowed to purchase energy conservation devices free of duty. Taxis were allowed duty free entry and in 1985 taxis and rental cars were exempted from credit restrictions.

In 1982, subsidies and rebates were granted for the following items used in agriculture: a grant of \$180 for spraying equipment; a grant of \$30,000 for the installation of irrigation facilities; the grant for fencing materials was raised from \$124 to \$1200 per hectare; a grant of 50% of the cost of a cane chopper up to a maximum of \$2500 was allowed to livestock farmers to encourage the use of sugar cane as a livestock feed; a grant of 25% of the cost of establishing a silo up to a maximum of \$2000 per farmer; a maintenance grant to producers who grow approved fruit trees of \$3 per tree per annum up to a maximum of 500 trees; the exemption of all dairy equipment and machinery from the payment of duty. In 1985, a \$1 million non-sugar export Agricultural Revolving Fund was established as well as a \$1 million Livestock Development Fund to promote the livestock industry. Between 1982 and 1985, Government guaranteed some \$52 million of bonds issued by the sugar industry and gave the industry a grant of \$10 million to protect the 6000 jobs involved. Loans by the BDB to agriculture and fisheries increased from 0 in 1981 to \$4.5 million in 1985.

Unemployment will be tackled by the expanding of the range of job training programmes for school leavers and the introduction of a voluntary National Service Scheme.

The voluntary National Service Scheme has fallen under the aegis of the Skills Training Programme run by the National Training Board. This programme has been divided into four major components, apprenticeship, skills training, skills action programme and in-plant training. There are presently some 15 centres teaching 24 skills in the Skills Training programme with a maximum course length of 12 months. 303 apprentices have been placed in 10 different skills areas. The average rate of placement in the Skills Action programme, started in November 1985, is 12 young people per week. In-plant training is designed to assist employers to establish training programmes on a systematic basis for all of its employees whether at entry level or for those already in the workforce, as a means of increasing productivity.

Inflation will be controlled by the mix of policies so successfully used to halve the previous rate of increases.

The record of the BLP in controlling the rate of increase in prices has been an outstanding success story. The Retail Price Index has fallen in each year since 1981.

| Inflation rate. |       |
|-----------------|-------|
| 1981            | 14.6% |
| 1982            | 10.3% |
| 1983            | 5.3%  |
| 1984            | 4.6%  |
| 1985            | 2.6%  |

The rate attained in 1985 is the lowest ever recorded in Barbados and it was accompanied by a fall in the price of a number of basic foodstuffs and essential consumer goods.

## Shares.

The Party believes in spreading the ownership of the means of production, distribution and exchange and will continue the policy of encouraging major businesses to offer shares for sale to the public.

In 1984 the Income Tax allowance for new shares in public companies was increased from \$2,000 to \$10,000 per annum. In 1985, employees purchasing shares in their work place at less than market value were exempted from Income Tax on the benefits thus realised.

## Credit Unions.

In 1984, the Income Tax allowance for savings with Credit Unions was increased from \$600 to \$1,200 per annum. In 1985 this allowance was increased further to \$1,800 per year. Between 1981 and 1985 the number of credit unions increased

# Promises Performance

from 26 to 39 and the value of savings held by the public in these institutions from \$4.8 million to \$23.4 million.

**Insurance Premiums.** In 1984 the Income Tax allowance for Life Insurance was increased from \$1,500 to \$1,800.

## **Allowance on savings.**

In 1984, income earned from investment in National Development Bonds was exempted from tax up to a limit of \$50,000. In 1984, the level of interest exempt from taxation on BNB savings deposits was increased from \$500 to \$1,000 per annum.

The BLP will support the Securities Exchange as a means of facilitating share transfers.

The Central Bank has been entrusted with the responsibility of establishing a Stock and Securities Exchange. A General Manager has been appointed and the Exchange is expected to be functional by June 1986. The Exchange is expected to accelerate the already significant increase, from \$4 to \$14 million, in share transactions in recent years.

The BLP recognises the vital role of the small man in building national prosperity. In the new session, more funds will be made available for small business and the credit guarantee scheme organised through the Central Bank will be strengthened.

Between 1980 and 1985 the BDB has substantially increased the volume of loans made available to small businessmen in manufacturing, tourism and in general services. The facts are as follows:

|                          | 1980      | 1985     |
|--------------------------|-----------|----------|
| Credit Provided.         |           |          |
| Small manufacturers      | \$397,000 | \$1.28m. |
| Small hoteliers          | \$14.3m.  | \$28.9m. |
| Small service industries | \$976,000 | \$12.8m. |

The credit guarantee scheme managed by the Central Bank catered to 22 small businesses.

## **Taxation**

The BLP will restructure the child allowances for Income Tax purposes to allow more generous allowances up to age 18, education allowance up to age 25 and allowances for the whole life of a handicapped child.

In 1982, the allowance for a child was raised from \$400 to \$500 and the age increased from 16 to 18. The allowance for a child over 11 and under 16 being educated in Barbados was raised from \$500 to \$600; for a child over 16 being educated in Barbados it was raised from \$500 to \$700 and being educated overseas from \$1000 to \$1200. An uppermost limit of 25 years was applied to these allowances as promised. In 1984, the allowance for a child between 16 and 25 was increased from \$700 to \$800 and for children over 18 being educated abroad it was increased from \$1,200 to \$1,400. In 1985, the Survivors Benefit payable to children was changed by the increase in age limit from 16 to 25 years to cover children in full time education.

The BLP will give regular increases in income tax allowances.

In 1983, taxpayers earning up to \$7,000 per year were granted a tax credit of \$360 and those earning between \$7,001 and \$8,000 a credit of \$180; the top rate of income tax was reduced from 70% to 60%. In 1984, Income Tax Allowances were increased as follows: a single person from \$2,400 to \$3,000; a married person from \$4,500 to \$5,000; persons over 65 were allowed \$5,500, to be reduced back to \$5,000 by \$1 for every dollar earned in excess of \$12,000. In 1984, tax credits were changed as follows: the lowest category was raised to \$7,500 and the credit increased from \$360 to \$400; the higher category was raised to \$8,500 and the credit increased from \$180 to \$250. These changes meant that no one earning less than \$145 per week was required to pay Income Tax. An additional 8000 persons were taken off the Income Tax Roll as a result.

The offshore banking and international business regime will be expanded to include shipping and insurance.

In 1983, the Exempt Insurance Act was passed enabling captive insurance companies a tax-free regime to operate in Barbados. To date, 7 such companies have registered in Barbados. With the conclusion of the USA/Barbados Double Taxation Treaty, companies which establish in Barbados are exempted from the 4% Federal Excise Tax payable on premiums remitted to Barbados. This has given Barbados a clear advantage over its competition and this industry is now poised to take off in a major way. A Shipping Incentives Act was passed in 1982 granting 10 year



# Promises Performance

tax concessions and duty free incentives for approved businesses. In a further bid to attract shipping business to the Bridgetown Port a programme of infrastructural development for both cargo and tourist related facilities has been implemented.

For good measure, legislation enabling Foreign Sales Corporations to locate in Barbados was passed in 1985. This will allow US companies carrying on international trade to use Barbados as a headquarters for their transactions.

With the acquisition of the Barbados National Oil Company by the Government this has not been necessary.

A new taxation winning regime will be introduced for petroleum winning operations so that Government revenue can benefit from the expected increase in petroleum production.

Income and corporation tax exemptions will be given for exports of non-sugar agricultural products.

The special incentives granted to the manufacturing industry in 1985 were extended to include non-sugar agricultural exports. An allowance of 150% of all expenses incurred in developing markets outside of Caricom and an increase in the maximum rebate of tax on extra-regional exports from 50% to 80% were given.

## FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

A new headquarters will be constructed in central Bridgetown for the Barbados National Bank.

With the acquisition of Bank of America by the BNB, the Bank acquired a ready-made rented outlet on Broad Street and its Head-Office has been transferred there. The Bank is presently negotiating the purchase of a property in Bridgetown to build its own headquarters.

The Insurance Corporation of Barbados will extend its activities in marine insurance and will be the Government's chief agency for carrying out the recommendations on crop insurance.

The Corporation now has one of the largest marine insurance portfolios in Barbados serving the fishing industry. The lowering of insurance rates from 11% at the top of the scale to 5% at the bottom for wooden vessels and 3% for fibreglass vessels has been of tremendous benefit to our local fishermen. The Corporation continues to insure the crops on Government-owned lands including the new non-sugar crops for export to Holland and Canada.

## ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

A Wind Energy pilot project for producing electricity will be built in the North of the Island within the next 18 months. The results of the project will be used to determine future locations and size of wind turbines to be distributed around Barbados.

The Government signed a technical cooperation agreement with the IDB in 1982 for the implementation of this project. The Caribbean Meteorological Institute conducted a series of wind studies starting in January 1984 out of which Lamberts In St. Lucy was identified as the site for erection of the pilot plant and a 100 metre meteorological mast, which has been constructed. A 250 kw Wind Turbine Generator has been manufactured by James Hawden of Glasgow and erection of the turbine began in April 1986.

The work on Energy Conservation will be encouraged and finance provided to implement the schemes.

An Energy Conservation Unit was established in 1983 to coordinate the energy conservation process in the island, and to implement the energy conservation programme funded by the World Bank. This Unit has conducted 45 energy units in both Government buildings and hotels resulting in \$1 million in actual savings. In 1985 the consumption tax on a variety of energy conservation equipment – low flow shower heads, fluorescent and high intensity discharge lighting, ceiling fans and thermal insulation – was removed. In the tourism sector, the import duty on energy saving material and equipment for the retrofitting of hotels is waived at the discretion of the Ministry of Finance.

An East Coast Wave Energy Scheme will be fully investigated, with a view to starting implementation, if the scheme proves feasible by 1985.

Despite some initial problems with the wave rider buoy all the data has been collected and the consultants have recommended that the wave data should be discussed with selected manufacturers of wave power devices and low head turbines to determine an appropriate generation system for Barbados, its optimum location and its costs following a feasibility study.

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Alternative fuels, including bagasse will be brought into use for generating electricity.

The policy of utilizing excess electricity generated by the burning of bagasse in the sugar factories has resulted in considerable savings of foreign exchange spent on oil. The technical process of feeding this excess electricity into the national grid was pioneered by the Party and increased from 155,000 kwh in 1983 to 1.5 million kwh in 1985. In addition 11,500 kwh of electricity was purchased by the Barbados Light & Power from BRC's wind turbine generator.

## PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

Deep drilling for petroleum and natural gas, instituted during the BLP regime will continue.

With the acquisition of the Barbados National Oil Company by the Government, the exploitation of our oil and natural gas resources has tripled. Crude oil production rose from 211,400 barrels or 17.3% of our total oil needs in 1981 to 697,200 barrels or 56.6% by 1985 resulting in millions of dollars in foreign exchange savings. Natural gas production for the same period rose from 9.9 million cubic metres to 33.5 million cubic metres.

To establish a liquified petroleum gas bottling plant.

Now that the natural gas reserves have been estimated, Cabinet has approved the design for the LPG plant and construction of the plant is scheduled to start within the next six months.

Expand the network of Natural Gas distribution.

Considerable progress has been achieved in this regard with several communities in St. Michael benefitting from this programme.

## TRADE & INDUSTRY

Expansion of the Export Promotion Corporation.

Since its formation in 1980, the staff of the Corporation has grown from 11 to 26. The Corporation established representation in 4 markets and will shortly do so in Puerto Rico. The BEPC has also carried out some 12 Market Research missions, 5 independent Research Studies and 15 Country Surveys. Since 1980 the number of exporting companies has risen from 176 to 235, with domestic exports increasing at the end of 1984 by 73% to \$583.7 million.

Widening of the Export Credit and Insurance Guarantee Schemes.

Funding for this Scheme, which is administered by the Central Bank, has been expanded to \$21 million.

Institutionalisation of the Joint Consultative Committee for Industrial Development, which is an informal body comprising the managers of all government agencies and private sector agencies involved in industrial development.

This Committee has been established and is functioning.

An Export Incentive Award Scheme to be administered through the Export Promotion Corporation

This was established in 1982 and some 162 separate companies have been supported by \$264,108 in disbursements in addition to \$144,337 spent on a furniture project aimed at penetrating the US market.

The expansion of the Barbados National Standards Institute to cover the areas of industrial design, packaging advisory services, industrial and intellectual property administration, i.e. patents, trademarks, service marks, industrial design and copyright laws.

These aims have been achieved with the enactment of a new Copyright Act in 1982 and the Patents, Trade Marks and Industrial Design Acts in 1985. A new industrial property system has come into force with the establishment of the Corporate Affairs and Industrial Property Office. In addition Barbados has become party to a number of universal artistic copyright conventions.

# Promises Performance

The expansion of training in the areas of marketing, production technology, computer technology and design.

This has been achieved through a variety of measures undertaken by the IDC, BEPC and the Ministry. The most timely of these aims to supply design and technical assistance to selected garment factories allowing them to capitalise on the recent proposals by President Reagan to allow free access to the US market for garments assembled in the Caribbean. In addition the BEPC's Marketing Advisory Service provides valuable information on marketing techniques and developments at the factory level.

The continuation of the vigorous and successful policy of the expansion of the handicraft and cottage industries.

Expansion of these two areas has been approached by a combined programme of training, fiscal incentives and the provision of facilities for handicraft production and sale along with the implementation of special projects. Some 399 persons were trained in a variety of areas, including 8 persons who benefitted from overseas scholarships. 96 handicraft operations benefitted from the Customs Tariff Amendment Order 109 which allowed duty free importation of raw materials, packaging materials, tools and equipment. Nine additional sales booths were constructed at an upgraded Pelican Village and sales outlets were provided at Heywoods and Harrison's Cave. Special project development included the tannery, ceramics and embroidery.

The continuation of a vigorous external trade offensive in cooperation with other Third World Countries in the international arena to fight protectionism and secure favourable access for developing countries' exports.

Barbados continues to play a decisive role in the negotiations of trade agreements such as Lome III, the CBI, Caribbean and the UNCTAD/GATT Meetings. The lobbying efforts of Barbados contributed considerably to the decision to include rum in the CBI package and our constructive criticism on the exclusion of sugar and textiles have borne fruit with the recent announcement by President Reagan to grant duty free access to garments under Clause 807 of the US Customs Tariff. The Government also supported proposals for a one way free trade agreement between Canada and the Caribbean, the details of which have been recently finalised. Barbados signed the LOME III Convention in December 1984 in Brussels where we adopted a leadership role in matters related to rum and sugar.

## Small Business

Continue to make funds available to small business through the Barbados Development Bank.

Between 1981 and March 1986 some 682 loans valued at almost \$24 million were approved for small businesses by the BDB.

Establish a facility to provide risk capital for small business.

This has been achieved through the credit guarantee scheme administered by the Central Bank.

Guarantee that small business, particularly in the area of construction, supply of goods and services and garments, will be given regular Government contracts.

Several small businesses have benefitted from this policy.

Continue provision of adequate factory space for the accommodation of small business at moderate rates.

A total of 143,374 sq. ft. of factory space at the Pine, Grantley Adams, Spring Garden and Pelican were made available for small business. The highlights of this programme were the extension of the Pelican huts for selected craft operations, the creation of special units at Spring Garden for small furniture manufacturers and the provision of additional workshop units at Grantley Adams and the Pine Industrial Estates. Work is in progress on the Gazettes Cluster Block which will be transformed into a Small Business Centre by mid 1986 offering an additional 72,000 sq.ft. of space. There has recently been a 20% reduction in the rental rates across the board with accommodation made for the payment of rental arrears over a 3 year period.

Establish cooperatives among businesses of a homogenous type operation.

The formation of the Barbados Furniture Trading Co. which is jointly owned by the IDC, BEPC, BDB and thirty-six local manufacturers is a major step forward in achieving this goal. The BFTC successfully negotiated a contract with a US based firm for unfinished reproduction mahogany pieces which has the potential to generate export sales of \$30 million over three years. The potential viability is already

# Promises Performance

Provide training and consultancy services and a core programme in the areas of accounting, management and marketing.

Extend the programmes offered at the Barbados Institute of Management and Productivity.

Provide training for factory workers.

Establish a registration programme for small business particularly in the manufacturing sub-sector.

## Consumer Credit and Protection

The Party will also seek to encourage and strengthen voluntary Consumer Associations.

## Development of Natural Resources

Support an expanded clay block industry.

Develop the production of ceramic tiles.

Encourage the modernisation of the coral stone block industry.

having a demonstration effect on other manufacturers and producers in the garment sector have approached the IDC and BEPC for assistance in the establishment of a similar facility.

In 1983, the IDC sponsored two costing seminars for small manufacturers in association with the accounting firm of Coopers & Lybrand. In 1984, work continued on the project for Development of the Domestic Manufacturing Sector run by the Manitoba Institute of Management and BIMAP. The Corporation also sponsored a number of short seminars on joint ventures and sub-contracting as investment and market strategies, in addition to securing a number of overseas attachments for local manufacturers to gain practical experience in modern production systems.

This has been done. Of particular note is the introduction of the course for the Diploma in Management Studies.

The IDC has embarked on a major training programme for electronic technicians, in addition to liaising with the National Training Board and the Polytechnic to ensure that there is a pool of skilled workers to service the garment and furniture sectors. The training Grant Scheme was recently increased to cover 75% of the salary of new recruits in industry to a maximum of \$75.00 for 8 weeks. This Scheme is geared to off-set part of the training in new start up and expanding operations and acts as a powerful incentive for increased employment.

The IDC maintains a directory of all manufacturing establishments. It has also provided comprehensive computerised profiles of companies interested in joint ventures and sub-contracting arrangements. A register of craft persons is also maintained.

The question of consumer protection was investigated with a view to setting up a regime. However, although a number of voluntary consumer associations mushroomed, they have been shortlived. The Government has had to fill this vacuum by undertaking investigations into consumer complaints.

Assistance was given to the clay block industry by securing a loan of US\$1.7 million from the IDB, however, the original company went into voluntary receivership due to a fall in demand in the Caricom market and other problems. The new owners are concentrating on the US market and assistance will be given where necessary.

Government agencies have assisted in the re-start of the local tile making industry.

Considerable modernisation has taken place in this industry, and a wider range of products is now being produced at reasonable prices.

## TOURISM & AVIATION

The Party is conscious that there is bound to be a limit to the number of tourists Barbados can accommodate without producing social tensions and environmental problems.

Regulation of the business of travel agents and tourism firms.

In recognition of the importance of the tourist industry to our economy, the Government restructured the Ministry of Tourism and created the Ministry of the Environment to be managed as a cohesive unit. In addition, the Tourist Board continued its programme of hospitality training for taximen, customs and immigration officers.

In 1982 an Act was passed to regulate the business of travel agents and tour operators, requiring them to be registered and licensed, in addition to providing financial security for the protection of their clients.



# Promises Performance

Concessions to approved shipping corporations engaged in the tourist industry.

Hotel registration and classification.

Access to beaches and improved beach facilities.

Cooperation with other departments of Government, the National Trust and the Museum in the conservation of historic resources.

Regulating Timesharing Development

Improved regulation of ground transportation.

Close monitoring of crime against visitors and improvement of security guard services by the Parks & Beaches Commission.

## AVIATION

The Party will continue its policy of consulting with other Caribbean countries with a view to harmonising and developing a common approach to third party countries.

The possibility of establishing a joint Tour Operating Company with the Government of Trinidad & Tobago will be investigated.

A Shipping Incentives Act was passed in 1982 providing for the registration of ships in Barbados. The Act gives tax concessions and duty free incentives for 10 years to approved businesses.

This scheme has been implemented by an amendment to the Board of Tourism Act 1958 and approval of the Hotel Registration and Classification Regulations 1982. At the end of 1985, 132 properties had been registered. The provisional classification of some properties has been completed and the total classification is expected to be completed by the end of summer 1986.

The National Conservation Commission's work to upgrade accesses, provide changing rooms and lifeguard services for Barbadians and visitors alike continues throughout the island. Lifeguard services have been extended to Bath, Maxwell, Heywoods and the Crane. A new beach facility has been constructed at River Bay with similar facilities in the planning stages for Brighton and Rockley beaches. Work will soon commence on upgrading facilities at Paynes Bay, Weston and Half Moon Fort.

The creation of the Ministry of the Environment in February 1985 has significantly enhanced procedures for cooperation among private and public sector agencies with an interest in the conservation of our historic resources. The Ministry is active in conservation efforts in the Speightstown and Garrison areas and liaises closely with the Town & Country Planning Office to ensure that our historic buildings are preserved.

With the introduction of Timesharing in 1980, a Timesharing Bill was drafted to regulate this new aspect of the industry, but Timesharing never really took off in Barbados. As a short term measure, the Exchange Control Division of the Central Bank was given administrative directions which regulate Timesharing operations.

Significant legislative action was taken for the improved regulation of taxis, maxi taxis, hired cars and contract carriages servicing the tourist industry with the enactment of the Road Traffic Regulations 1984. Further incentives were granted to those involved in this aspect of the industry and include an extension by a further 5 years for duty free importation of taxis; the abolition of the 8% tax on hire car rentals and the ability of hire car operators to issue as part of their service, visitor's driving permits to qualified persons.

There has been a substantial reduction in the incidence of crime against visitors since 1981. An increase in the number of Beach Rangers, and the granting of island constable status to most of them together with increased beach patrols by the Police Force were to a large extent responsible for this reduction. Greater emphasis on professional security services in the hotels also complimented Government's efforts. The provision of vendors' kiosks for beach vendors has already reduced the complaints of harassment on the beaches and the remaining kiosks will be completed by the end of 1986.

Several steps have been taken in the continuation of this policy. At the multilateral level Barbados signed the first Inter-Governmental Agreement on Cooperation in Air Services which became effective in September 1985. In 1983 Barbados was party to a resolution accepted by the ICAO General Assembly which allows Caricom governments to designate airlines owned by other governments. In addition, in September 1982, Barbados scored an aviation first by securing the agreement of the USA to designate BWIA to fly routes allocated to Barbados.

The 1979 Memorandum of Understanding provided for such an institution, but no real progress has been made apart from a meeting held in Barbados in 1981.

# Promises Performance

## AGRICULTURE

To make Barbados as near to self sufficient in food production as is practicable.

To make Barbados a net exporter of food, including sugar and products of the sea.

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To ensure that marketing and pricing procedures are developed to enable all agricultural products to be sold to the local consumer at reduced rates.

### Sugar

To make ownership of the sugar industry more democratic by purchasing enough shares in Barbados Sugar Factories Limited to make the Government the largest shareholder.

To ensure that modern ploughing and other mechanical cultivating equipment is made fully available to all growers.

To carry out a long-term programme to increase sugar production to at least 150,000 tonnes annually.

During the last four years there have been no imports of fresh vegetables that can be grown on the island. We have also become self sufficient in whole chicken, eggs and fresh pork. There has also been a marked increase in the production of fresh milk.

The Barbados Agricultural Development Corporation has assumed a pioneering role in the export of new crops. Sweet peppers and eggplant have been exported to the Dutch market and Tam Dew melons to Canada. As a further incentive to producers an Agricultural Export Revolving Fund was set up in 1985 to provide short term financing for packaging materials, freight expenses, insurance and handling pending the receipt of export proceeds.

As a result of Government's stimuli to the producers, the consumers over the last 5 years received a wide variety of agricultural produce at stable prices. Information on the pricing of and availability of produce is provided weekly through the Barbados Marketing Corporation's media Programme BASIS.

In order to ensure widest possible ownership, the Government in its own right and on behalf of the island's 8000 small holders, is now the largest shareholder.

This has been accomplished through the Barbados Agricultural Development Corporation and private Firms.

During 1984 and 1985 sugar production surpassed the 100,000 tonnes mark. In view of the decline in sugar prices on the world market this tonnage is thought to be most economical under the present circumstances.

### Non-sugar Agriculture

The establishment of a broiler and egg breeder unit to produce our own hatching eggs in Barbados.

A modern Chicken Processing Facility will be established at the new Barbados Marketing Corporation's complex to be built in St. George.

### Vegetables

To establish an Agricultural Training College offering courses of up to two years and set up an Agricultural Training Centre at Sayers Court.

To create an Export Promotion body for the marketing of vegetables and other non-sugar products.

This unit is in the process of being established at the Hope in St. Lucy with consulting services being provided by the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation and the EEC.

As a result of private sector initiative in this area, this has not proved necessary.

The Barbados Community College now has an Agricultural Programme which offers both theoretical and practical training in a two year course. The Training Centre at Sayers Court has been set up and is functioning well.

The reorganisation of the Barbados Marketing Corporation in 1983 has made the creation of this body unnecessary, since the BMC provides marketing services for a wide range of produce for export. It recently opened a facility at the airport for the storage, grading, packing and labelling of produce for export.

# Promises Performance

To exempt a proportion of the profits made on export of non-sugar agricultural produce from Corporation or Income Tax.

## Livestock

Establish feedlots for sheep and cows with a view to greatly expanding mutton and beef production.

Expand the black belly sheep multiplication programme.

Improve the facilities at the Abattoir and the standards for slaughtering animals.

## Fruit and Nuts

Extension services for fruit cultivation will be improved and a rebate of the purchase price of all fruit tree seedlings sold by the Soil Conservation Unit still alive after three years will be given.

The Government will identify suitable areas and provide persons willing to grow the nuts with the use of nut planting and harvesting equipment.

The special incentives provided in 1985 granting an allowance of 150% of all expenses incurred in developing markets outside of Caricom and the increase of the maximum rebate of tax on extra-regional sales from 50% to 80% were widened in 1986 to include such produce.

A \$1 million livestock Development Fund has been established and experimental feedlots have been instituted.

Incentives provided by Government have seen a significant improvement in the number and quality of black belly sheep.

A feasibility study has been carried out and this project has been included in Barbados' Indicative Programme for the Lome III aid programme.

IICA in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture has established fruit orchards at Codrington, Graeme Hall and Haggatts and farmers receive seedlings at the most economical price possible. In addition, a maintenance grant of \$3 per tree per annum has been given up to a maximum of 500 trees.

This has been one of the success stories of the diversification programme instituted by the Government. Over 300 acres of nuts are scheduled to be reaped this season largely as a result of Government's provision of strong agronomic, harvesting and drying support services offered to the producers.

## FISHERIES

New Fishing Harbours will be built at Speightstown, Bridgetown and Bathsheba.

A Marketing & Distribution Agency for fish will be established.

The BLP will provide a Capital Investment Fund for on-lending to fishermen at concessional rates of interest for renewing the fishing fleet by building intermediate size boats with beacons and other navigational aids and ice storage capacity.

Research into new fish types suitable for catching by the larger vessels will be undertaken.

Construction of new Fishing Harbours at Bridgetown, Tent Bay and Speightstown is in progress. So far \$1.4 million has been spent on the Bridgetown project and \$1.6 on the Tent Bay and Speightstown installations.

Private enterprise, with fiscal incentives provided by the Government, together with the BMC's promotion of fish abroad, have expanded the fish export business while improved fishing terminals have resulted in better marketing locally.

This has been achieved with the Development Bank as the lending agency. \$3.5 million has been lent to the fishing industry since 1981. There are now over 50 ice boats in operation, a duty free regime has been created for the importation of spare parts and the Fisheries Department has instituted an on-going programme to improve technical efficiency in the industry i.e. operation of navigational aids, engine and equipment maintenance and safety at sea.

This research is underway.

# Promises Performance

The Fisheries Division will be reorganised and targeted towards intensified experimental work.

The Search & Rescue facilities of the Defence Force will be fully activated to assist fishermen.

This has been accomplished and the Fisheries Department was involved in the implementation of an aquaculture project in 1984. The Department also undertook a survey aimed at improving the methodology of fish landing, as well as its extension work with fishermen.

The Coast Guard arm of the Force have undertaken 334 search and rescue missions since 1981.

## INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS

A re-elected BLP Government is committed to the building of a new road from Grantley Adams Airport via Newton, from Wildey to Warrens and from Warrens to Black Rock, the latter as part of an outer Ring Road system around Bridgetown.

Extend the East Coast Road through Bathsheba to Blades Hill in St. Philip. This project must be tied in with plans for the Scotland District Development and the Bathsheba Fisheries Projects.

The bridge at Blowers will be widened to accommodate the increased traffic which will result from the siting in that area of the new factory.

A number of secondary roads will be constructed in country tenantry and former tenantry districts.

Highway improvements will include widening of roads and provision of roundabouts to assist the freer flow of traffic.

Construction of the airport to West Coast Highway began in February 1986 after some delay on the recommendations by the Inter-American Development Bank. Construction of this \$90 million project is scheduled to be completed in three years.

This proposal has been deferred in the context of the original concept expressed in the Manifesto. Greater emphasis has instead been placed on the Scotland District Development and towards this end the Ministry of Transport & Works has undertaken a massive rehabilitation project of the Access Roads to the Scotland District while the Fisheries Project at Tent Bay is progressing.

A major rehabilitation plan for Highway 2A from Mile & A Quarter to Warrens will result in the bridge at Blowers being abandoned and the road in that area being realigned. Meanwhile, the Ridgeway Bridge between St. Thomas Church and Portvale Factory was reconstructed in 1982 to cope with the increase in traffic.

Between 1981 and 1985, the Ministry completed 64 tenantry and subsidiary roads. By the end of 1985 another 16 roads were under construction with 24 more scheduled for completion by the end of March 1986. In addition, repairs and repaving were done in the residential areas of Ealing Park, Bayville, Regency Park, Elizabeth Park, Durants and Newton Terrace.

We have done better than the Manifesto's promises. Apart from construction of the Belmont/Pine Road Roundabout, work has commenced on the Pine Road/Culloden Road Roundabout as part of a larger project which will provide a four-lane road between this Roundabout and the Jemmott's Lane/River Road Junction. Major road improvements have also been completed at Government Hill, St. Lawrence Gap, Pine, East West Road, Lower Bay Street, the Wharf, Smith's Corner to Kingsland, St. David's and the road east of Grantley Adams Airport to Six Roads to cite but a few examples.

The contract for the Northern Access Road linking the Arawak Cement Plant to the shale quarries at Greenland has been awarded and construction is expected to commence shortly. This project was not originally in the Manifesto.

### Roadside Garages

Roadside garages are a means of livelihood to some, but a source of actual or potential danger to many on the highway. The BLP believes that the interests both of the garage operator and of the public would be properly served by finding parcels of land for the relocation of these garages.

A suitable site has been allocated at Bagatelle and the necessary services provided by the Government. The well-known "Old Car Museum" on President Kennedy Drive is in the process of relocating there and several other such garages are expected to follow suit in the coming months.



# Promises Performance

## Road Repairs & Maintenance

A re-elected BLP Government will set up a new asphalt plant.

As a result of the establishment of three asphalt plants by private enterprise it was not necessary for the Government to set up another plant.

Government entered into a \$38 million programme with the World Bank which started in 1984 and is scheduled to run for four years. Emphasis is being given to improving road safety where there is heavy pedestrian traffic such as Highways 1 and 7 where sidewalk construction is in progress or has been completed. Civil works already started from Cave Hill to Holder's Hill, Well Gap to Lodge Hill and St. David's to Six Roads via Highway 6, will see the resurfacing of 64.5 km of major roads. The programme also provides for the purchase of much needed equipment for the road programmes and some institutional strengthening within the Ministry by the establishment of a Planning Unit, an integrated accounting system and the establishment of a Soils and Materials Laboratory.

## Public Transport

A completely new Transport Authority will be established.

Consultation has taken place with experts from England, Canada and Belgium with a view to setting up a Transit Authority. Initial proposals have been submitted for further consideration by the Government.

The integration of private mini-buses into the overall transportation system.

This has been achieved and the situation continuously monitored in terms of supply and demand and routing. In addition, improved parking facilities have been provided for mini-buses at Probyn St. and Temple Yard.

More buses will be provided on an annual basis for the Transport Board.

152 new buses have been provided since 1981.

The construction of a new bus terminal for Bridgetown.

The first phase of the Fairchild Street Bus Terminal, the Departure Concourse has been completed and is in use, with work on the main hall well under way. Provision is also being made for the vendors who have traditionally made their living in the area by the construction of hygienic, comfortable vendors' booths.

The construction of sidewalks to facilitate pedestrian travel.

Sidewalk programmes have already been completed at Beckles Road, Government Hill and Maxwell Main Road. Crash barriers and hand railings have been erected along the Wharf and the sidewalk programme for Highway 1 is in progress.

The construction of covered bus stops throughout the island.

Several covered bus stops have been erected across the island as roads are re-constructed and repaired.

The construction of modern passenger facilities at major bus terminals outside Bridgetown.

Construction has commenced on the new Speightstown Bus Terminal which will incorporate workshop facilities and accommodation for mini-buses.

Further achievements in the general transportation system include the setting up of a Licensing Authority to incorporate the operations of licensing of drivers and vehicles and the regulation of public service vehicles. The enactment of the Road Traffic Act 1981 and the Road Traffic Regulations 1984. The introduction of automatic control systems at the car parks in Independence Square and at Princess Alice and the construction of a new car park at Coleridge Street.

## UTILITIES

A one million gallon steel tank at Boscobelle, St. Peter.

This has been completed at a cost of \$250,000.00.

# Promises Performance

The extensive programme of laying new mains and replacing old ones will be continued.

Extensive work has been completed in this regard. 2 miles of 4" mains were laid in 13 villages for the Integrated Rural Development Scheme; 31 miles of mains into 163 villages or tenancies and 33.3 miles of mains on behalf of private developers. Considerable lengths of trunk mains were laid either as new or replacement mains.

In addition to this programme, a 4 million gallon tank was constructed at St. Stephen's. 18" delivery mains laid from St. Stephen's reservoir to Black Rock and a new pumping station was built to augment supplies to Lodge Hill Reservoir.

18" main was laid from Hanson Pumping Station to Fort George Reservoir.

16" main was laid from Hampton Pumping Station to Rising Sun Reservoir.

Work is in progress on the construction of a Pumping Station at Cattlewash, a tank at Joes River and associated mains.

In 1979 the total number of water services were 59,016, at the end of 1980 the total was 76,500.

At the end of 1985 the total was 71,000 or 92% of the population. The remainder are within easy access of some 1,200 stand pipes. Facilities for the public to pay their water bills have been extended to include the General Post Office and all of its branches, as well as the Barbados National Bank and all of its branches.

Government has also established a fund of \$600,000.00 for grants or loans to low-income householders in the sewered area for the provision of water closets and showers and assistance in hooking up to the Sewerage System. Some 30 householders out of an estimated 300 have received this assistance.

A total of 400 buildings out of an estimated 1,800 have been connected to the Sewerage System.

## PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT & THE ENVIRONMENT

A new commercial and recreational development adjoining the new Fishing Harbour north of the Careenage. This will contain a marina, a waterside walk and open spaces planted with avenues of trees.

Work is in progress on the new Bridgetown Fishing Harbour with land reclamation in its final stages. Meanwhile, safety rails have been erected along the Wharf as the first stage of the waterside walk. Pleasure craft currently dock on the eastern quay of the Outer Basin of the Careenage and will be allocated more space on completion of the Fishing Harbour and the subsequent removal of the great majority of fishing boats. Private enterprise has already started to capitalise on the Party's plans for the area and a restaurant, nightclub and shops have opened on the eastern quay.

A new headquarters will be built for the Barbados Development Bank adjacent to the Harbour with provision for small shops.

Renovation and rehabilitation of Marshall Hall on Hinck's Street for the Bank's new headquarters has started.

A Roebuck Street rehabilitation plan will include an Inner Ring Road linking Bay Street to Westbury Road.

Private development is already having an impact on Roebuck Street which will be further enhanced by the new headquarters of the Insurance Corporation opposite Weymouth. Further development of the area has been deferred until the Transport Board is resited at its new headquarters.

The feasibility of using purified water from the sewage plant for irrigation as part of a City Beautification campaign will be investigated.

A City Beautification campaign has been successfully instituted as part of the larger re-development plan for Bridgetown. Jubilee Gardens have been revegetated and further beautification of the City will take place.

The Greenfields and Nelson Street will be redeveloped to provide better housing for their residents.

Plans have been approved and tenders awarded for the Nelson Street/Pondside Housing Complex, but it has not been possible to start the Greenfields Project at this time.

# Promises Performance

The same principles of area development which have beautified the Halls Road/Martindales Road Junction will be applied to other streets in the city. Improved pavements will be provided and picket fences constructed.

The Speightstown bypass will be completed, the Esplanade extended, a large-scale public beach facility constructed at Heywoods and an industrial park built to the east of the Town.

Developments at the Glebe, St. George will include a new primary school, a school meals centre, polyclinic, magistrate's court and a police station.

A Fishing Harbour will be built at Tent Bay to be integrated with the East Coast Road.

Community facilities will be improved and the construction of the new Community Centre completed.

## Parks and Other Amenities

Upon completion of the works at Harrison's Cave, the Caves Authority will be merged with the Parks & Beaches which will operate the Cave.

The Party proposes a major new Park comprising the present Graeme Hall Swamp.

The East Coast Park will be further developed. Access roads and hiking trails will be provided.

Pedestrian pavements have been completed in Beckles Road, St. Michael, and at Collymore Rock. Roundabouts at Belmont Road and Culloden Road have been completed. Further afield, the bridge at Roger's Quarry has been built and a roundabout created.

The Speightstown Bypass is now in its third and final stage and nearing completion. As a result of the re-siting of the new proposed Fishing Terminal to Fort Denmark, on which work will soon commence, the old fish market will be demolished providing more room along the Esplanade which will be upgraded. In addition, a new Bus Terminal for the Town is already under construction. The Beach facility at Heywoods has been completed and is being enjoyed by Barbadians from across the island.

Work has started at the Glebe with the re-siting and re-housing of residents, the primary school has been completed, the polyclinic and new accommodation for the House Help Service are expected to be completed by October 1986 and construction of the Magistrate's Court and Police Station will start in this financial year.

While the integration of the East Coast Road has been deferred in preference to developing access roads in the Scotland District, construction of the Fishing Harbour is proceeding apace. Access to Tent Bay has been improved and the treacherous channel will be widened so as to minimise the danger to fishermen and their boats during rough seas and to enable them to operate from the area year round.

Major upgrading of the Community Centre has been completed bringing it in line with similar facilities across the island.

Harrison's Cave was opened in 1981 and has proved to be one of our major tourist attractions. The National Conservation Commission superseded the Caves Authority and Parks & Beaches and is currently studying the possibility of expanding the public areas of the Cave.

A study was commissioned from the Caribbean Conservation Commission on the management alternatives of the area and as a result of the recommendations a paper has been submitted to Cabinet for the acquisition of the 26.65 acres of land including the lake, which together with the eastern section already owned by the Government will form the Graeme Hall Nature Park.

The East Coast Park now falls within the Barbados National Park which includes the eastern section of the island between Archer's Bay in St. Lucy to Ragged Point in St. Philip. Designation of the area merely seeks to focus minds on the need to conserve the outstanding landscape and special features of historic, cultural and ecological importance. A National Park Advisory Coordinating Committee has been established to advise upon the development of the Park. For this reason the original proposals for the East Coast Park have been deferred within the context of development of the larger area.

## EDUCATION

A sufficient number of secondary school places will be provided.

The BLP has expanded six existing secondary schools providing some 2,600 places and modern facilities for pupils attending these institutions. A second education

# Promises Performance

development programme has been negotiated with the World Bank which will provide a new secondary school with 1,050 places at Wotton in Christ Church, in addition to extensive rehabilitation and renovation of Queen's College, Springer Memorial and other schools which did not benefit under the first programme.

Emphasis will continue to be placed on the redevelopment of our Primary Schools. Improved provision will be made for children between the ages of 3 and 5.

Great strides have been made in Primary education during the Party's second term. Ten new replacement Primary Schools have been built providing 5,880 places. A number of small inefficient schools have been amalgamated with neighbouring schools, where spare capacity existed, and upgraded. 23 other existing schools have been identified for amalgamation into ten replacement schools under the Secondary Education Project recently negotiated with the World Bank. There has also been a significant qualitative improvement of education at the Primary Schools. 60 teachers have undergone training in teaching reading and remedial reading with another 34 currently undergoing training. A similar remedial programme has also been initiated in mathematics. An adequate number of places for pre-primary children has been maintained.

Persons who pay fees to write the examination of approved institutions and are successful will receive a refund of those fees.

This has been implemented for students sitting examinations from approved independent secondary schools.

Income Tax allowances will be improved to take into account students up to age 18 and in some cases age 25.

This has been achieved and the allowance for children between 16 and 25 has been raised from \$500 in 1982 to \$800 in 1984 for children being educated in Barbados, with the allowance for children between the age of 16 and 25 being educated overseas increasing from \$1000 to \$1400.

The Students Revolving Loan Fund will be monitored to ensure that preference is given to students wishing to pursue studies in those areas where there is a scarcity of skills in the society.

In the course of this exercise, the Fund has been expanded, modified and replenished to the amount of \$6 million providing 507 loans – 57 in higher education, 305 in post-secondary technical training and 208 in vocational training in an effort to strengthen middle level management since this is the area where bottlenecks are most likely to occur as the economy is restructured and diversified during the next 10 years. The Fund has been extended to include Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic and Barbados Community College students.

## CULTURE & THE ARTS

Scholarships and financial assistance for studies in the creative arts.

A considerable number of young Barbadians have benefitted from fundamental training in music, dance, drama, fine arts, craft and literary arts through workshops at the community level. Additionally, assistance has been provided to those attending regional workshops, as well as full degree scholarships.

Lowering/removal of duty/taxes on musical and artistic equipment.

The 1986 Budget abolished the Consumption Tax on a wide range of musical instruments.

The National Arts & Culture Council to be made a statutory board with powers to collect and distribute funds for cultural groups.

This has been achieved with the establishment of the National Cultural Foundation in February 1984, which is now responsible for the preservation and promotion of our cultural heritage and awareness.

Integration into the curriculum in schools of dance and movement, music and drama.

All secondary schools have been supplied with cassette recordings of Barbadian folk music. Music workshops have been conducted in a number of schools and plans are under way for the institution of a dance programme.

Development of the concept of theatre in education as a means of teaching the social sciences and history.

This will be achieved through Educational Television, plans for which will be implemented in the near future.



# Promises Performance

Establishment of local culture committees with support services from the Ministry of Culture.

Emporia for sale of local works of art and handicraft.

Establishment of a National Art Gallery.

Annual conventions of artists to formulate and review policies.

A National Culture Centre at Church Village and the designation of the whole Church Village and Queen's Park area as a Cultural Village.

Preservation of oral traditions by recording interviews with senior citizens.

Greater use of the media as cultural animators and facilitators.

Expansion island-wide of summer vacation workshops in the arts for school children.

Permanent equipping of performing spaces at Combermere, Farley Hill, Queen's Park etc.

Establishment of a School of Drama at the Barbados Community College.

Publishing of an annual anthology of works of Barbadian artists.

The revision, refinement and improvement of NIFCA and Crop Over.

The institution of National schools of music and drama festivals.

The promotion of cultural activity in the Community Centres provided throughout the island have spawned several culture committees which have received the Ministry's support.

Although the proposed emporia has not yet been established, upgraded and additional facilities have been provided for our craftsmen at Pelican Village, Heywoods and Harrison's Cave.

A National Art Collection has been started by private citizens and friends of Barbados with the assistance and cooperation of the Cultural Foundation. The collection is presently on display at the Museum and the Ministry is studying proposals for a more permanent exhibition site. Meanwhile the Foundation continues to sponsor fine art exhibitions and musical shows.

While no formal conventions have been organised, there is continual dialogue with the National Arts Council and MEGOB. NCF also gives these groups support in organising art exhibitions and musical shows.

The Central Bank's Auditorium will in part meet some of the demand for a Cultural Centre with the other aspects of this proposal being dependent on the further re-development of Church Village.

Some work has already started in this area by research into oral folkloric traditions and its expression on national radio and television. Further impetus will be given to this project by subsidies to recognised culture committees to record such interviews at the community level.

The role of CBC Radio and Television has been vital in presenting local plays, short stories and other dramatic items and will be continued.

This has been achieved through the use of the community centres.

This was achieved as part of the preparation for Carifesta and Farley Hill in particular has become famous for its outdoor concerts during Crop Over while Queen's Park, Combermere and the Steel Shed are popular venues for dramatic productions.

The Fine Arts Division of the College will be expanded to include drama, dance and music, following a review of the plan to establish a separate School of Drama.

The NCF will be publishing an anthology titled Banja in December, 1986.

The NCF has undertaken the responsibility of organising both these national festivals. The success of Crop Over is perhaps best exemplified by the widespread spontaneous participation in the festival as well as the keenly contested calypso competition. The number of theatrical presentations which now form a major part of entertainment in the tourist industry are attributable to the cultural awareness fostered by NIFCA in addition to the development of the performing arts to the international levels as exemplified by such groups as the Barbados Dance Theatre, Sing Out Barbados and the Cecilian Singers.

This has been achieved with the institution of the extremely popular and successful Jazz and Guitar festivals, as well as the Esso Festival which resulted from an offer by that company to Government to sponsor a multi-disciplined festival. This festival has become a major part of the NCF's programme following the establishment of that body and forms part of the Foundation's objective in involving individuals and private sector corporations in funding cultural activities.

# Promises Performance

The preservation of historic buildings and artistic treasures for the nation.

Various departments of Government work in close cooperation with each other and the National Trust as a means towards ensuring that our architectural heritage is preserved. As a further incentive a loan fund of \$1 million has been provided for the repair and preservation of historic buildings on extremely generous terms. The Town Planning Department has also published a list of buildings of historical or architectural significance protecting them from indiscriminate renovations or demolition.

## HEALTH

Implementation of the primary care service of the NHS will be accomplished with the cooperation of the health professionals and the Barbadian public. Some of these terms will operate out of the polyclinics and also out of private doctor's offices.

As a result of protracted negotiations with the medical profession only the polyclinic aspect of primary health care delivery has been implemented. In addition, agreement has been reached with the Consultants at the Q.E.H., and 10 new Consultants have been appointed to handle referrals from the Polyclinics. Agreement has also been reached with the Pharmacists and the Drug Service has been extended to include all persons over 65 and under 16 and those suffering from cancer, hypertension and diabetes. Negotiations between the NHS Board and BAMP on the implementation of the General Practitioner Service are continuing. The Government has provided six polyclinics for this purpose, with work on the clinic at Six Roads nearing completion and construction of the final clinic at the Glebe, St. George well underway.

Secondary and tertiary medical services will be adjusted to accommodate cases arising from the upgraded primary care service.

Construction of a new \$20 million wing at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital has started, which on completion will offer some of the most modern diagnostic equipment available, in addition to extra ward and surgical theatre space. The Emergency Unit at the QEH will also be significantly upgraded in concert with the recent restructuring of the Emergency Ambulance Unit. A new Burns Unit will also be provided.

Three area Health Committees will be appointed including representatives from Sanitation, Public Health and other social services.

These Committees were appointed in February 1986.

## SANITATION

A crematorium will be established and Westbury Cemetery will be upgraded.

The Ministry of the Environment under whose portfolio this matter now falls is receiving technical assistance on the feasibility of a crematorium, and Westbury Cemetery is in the process of being refurbished.

Abandoned graves will be re-cycled and brought back into use.

No graves have been re-cycled since the Attorney General's office has advised that in the case of purchased plots, they would have to be acquired by Compulsory Acquisition.

The South and West Coasts zones will be given sewerage systems.

Feasibility and pre-design studies have been completed on the systems for these two zones. A decision has been made to sewer the South Coast in a first phase and construction should begin late in 1987, and will be followed by the sewerage of the West Coast.

## HOUSING

The programme of attracting both public and private funding to the task of fully housing the nation will be stepped up.

The National Housing Credit Fund Programme has provided over \$10 million to the Barbados Mortgage Finance Co., commercial banks and credit unions for on-lending to low income families. In addition, Government has held extensive discussions with these institutions to streamline mortgage financing operations with the result that mortgage money is readily available to qualified borrowers. Government also entered into a joint venture project with private contractors to build 567 homes.

# Promises Performance

There will be a mixed programme of rental and sale of units provided by the NHC.

A land bank will be maintained and increased to provide ready building land for the NHC.

Vacant lots with derelict houses will be acquired for return to housing use.

Quicker methods of construction will be researched and used.

A number of one-bedroom apartments and studio apartments will be built for rental.

A Sites and Services programme will be instituted.

Loans at reasonable rates of interest and other favourable terms of repayment will be available to assist persons to purchase these lots.

A new BLP Government will introduce suitable incentives for private builders who build houses for rent or sale at middle-income levels.

There has been considerable modification of the old concept of providing the population with rental units. This has resulted from a dramatic change in the demand for housing over the last 3 years. Barbadians now wish to own their own homes and the Party responded to this by introducing starter homes, low income housing at West Terrace and some 1,238 lots for sale.

This has been accomplished at West Terrace, Checker Hall, Harmony Hall, Bartlett's Tenantry and many other sites across the island.

A number of lots have been acquired in the Pondside area, St. Matthias Gap and Culloden Road in a continuing programme to achieve this aim.

This has been accomplished as a result of the policy to involve the private sector in joint housing projects and contractors are now building good quality, well designed wall houses at a cheaper price than in the past.

This has been accomplished with the provision of such units in the Kensington Lodge housing complex.

This is perhaps one of the Party's greatest achievements in housing. It recognised the desire of people to own their own homes, provided suitable lots to make this a reality and further strengthened the programme by the provision of adequate financing. Over 1,200 lots were provided.

This has been achieved through the Housing Credit Fund. In addition, financing for home repairs has also been made readily available.

This has been accomplished by a deductible allowance in taxable income of 40% of the cost of converting a building into units for rental as a residence. Additionally, the tax payable by a company on the income derived from the construction and sale in an income year of two or more dwelling houses of stone or other permanent material is 20% of every complete dollar of such income. The usual rate is 45%.

## CARING AND SHARING

### Social Security

The means test will be abolished and every person over the age of 65 will be entitled to a pension under the Social Security Scheme.

The non-contributory pension will be raised from \$40 per week by 1983 and the contributory minimum pension to \$50.

Unemployment benefits will be added to the National Insurance Scheme.

The Health Benefits which comprise the NHS will be added in 1981-82.

The Health Benefits will be extended to include Barbadian seamen.

This was accomplished in January 1982.

The increase in pension payments of \$40 and \$50 a week in each category in fact came into effect in April 1984. In April 1986 the non-contributory pension was increased to \$48, and the contributory pension to \$60.

Unemployment benefits were introduced in 1982 and to date some \$16 million in payments have been made

Since these are dependent on the full-scale introduction of the NHS this aspect of the health programme has not yet come into effect.

Again these are dependent on the full implementation of the NHS, but of course the present services offered at the Polyclinics are also extended to this group.

# Promises Performance

National Insurance coverage generally will be doubled.

A National Pension Plan will be established.

With effect from January 1982 the maximum insurable earnings were increased from \$230 per week to \$506 and from \$1,000 per month to \$2,200. In June 1984 there was a further increase to \$598 per week and \$2,600 per month respectively.

Further work has been done in the last 5 years on the concept of an integrated Pension Plan for Barbados. With the increase in maximum insurable earnings under the NIS many employers have taken the opportunity to adjust their pension schemes to reflect the increase and provide additional coverage. Statutory Boards have also followed suit in respect of incomes over and above the NIS with the result that there has been a greater rationalisation of pensions. The 1986 Budget provided further incentives for workers to supplement their own private pension schemes or those between employer and employees by increasing the Income Tax allowances for private pension schemes to \$3,000.

This review is presently in progress.

The Pension Act will be reviewed and a system of granting pensions by right established.

## National Assistance

The BLP will implement a recreation programme for the elderly in Senior Citizens' Centres which will be set up throughout the island.

The government will monitor the facilities offered in privately owned Senior Citizens' Homes.

The BLP will increase National Assistance payments whenever Old Age Pensions are increased.

While these Centres have not yet been set up, the BLP has instituted a successful Home Help Programme for the elderly and disabled and the concept of allowing our Senior Citizens to visit the District Hospitals as day patients has ensured that they are not taken out of the community in the process of attending to their health needs.

This policy is carried out by the annual inspection and registration of such homes.

This has been achieved with the most recent increase being given in the 1986 Budget.

## LABOUR

A Bill to restrain Unfair Dismissals.

Legislation to restrain unfair dismissals and to provide equal opportunity for men and women in employment has been drafted and is presently being considered by the Ministry.

A new Severance Payment Bill

The Cabinet has taken a decision to revise and simplify the Severance Payments Act and the Ministry of Health & Social Security under whose portfolio this legislation now falls is awaiting a draft bill.

A Wage Council order for shop assistants minimum wage.

Successive Wages Regulations Orders have been made since 1981 taking the minimum weekly wage of persons under 18 from \$72 to \$120 and those over 18 from \$84 to \$136. The Regulations have also moved overtime rates in the two categories from \$2.70 to \$5.80 and \$3.15 to \$6.80 respectively.

An amended Shops Bill

A new Shops Act came into force in December 1985. The Act primarily provides general relaxation in the opening hours for shops. Shops may now open on Sundays in December and on close days in the event of tourist ship arrivals.

A Factories Bill

We have done better than this. Apart from implementation of the Act in March 1984 which enlarges the provisions for better working conditions and better safeguards to prevent industrial accidents, the BLP has amended the Accidents and Occupational diseases Notification Act making it compulsory for an employee to report and record every accident in the workplace and any suspected cases of occupational diseases.



# Promises Performance

Legislation for the establishment of a Labour Advisory Council

The Manpower Planning Unit established by the BLP will make analyses of labour market information and prepare all relevant data on which sound manpower policies can be formed.

## Special Programmes

The BLP Government expects to send approximately 200 women workers to Canada on the Farm Labour Programme.

A Skills Training Project will train a minimum of 5000 youths.

The proposed Labour Advisory Council has not yet been established. However, in 1983 the Government ratified the ILO Tripartite Consultation Convention which requires the establishment of machinery for effective tripartite consultations on all ILO matters.

This Unit is functioning extremely well and has provided the Government with invaluable information on a wide range of topics affecting the labour market. The Unit has fulfilled the purpose for which it was set up, namely to provide the Government with manpower statistics to allow for sound economic policies. It also has the added bonus of providing this information to local and foreign investors.

Initial problems with accommodation for women in Canada proved to be a limiting factor in the success of this scheme, but steps are being taken to rectify this and there should be an increase over the 53 women who have benefitted from this scheme so far.

One of the success stories of the second term, some 5045 young people have benefitted from this Scheme which aims to provide the country with a pool of skilled workers while at the same time equipping young people with a skill which will enable them to find jobs in a changing employment environment. Run by the National Training Board, the Scheme has four major components: in-plant training, skills training, skills action and apprenticeship.

## WOMEN

A re-elected BLP Government will encourage women to take initiatives in income generating projects.

The BLP will continue to grant assistance to women's organisations in the pursuit of any socially desirable programmes.

The BLP is committed to the full implementation of all the recommendations contained in the Report on the Commission on the Status of Women.

Encouragement in the form of financial assistance has been given to the Organisation of Women's Food Preservation project, to the tune of \$40,000, as well as \$610,000 for a National Embroidery Project and other handicraft projects implemented by the IDC.

Through the Bureau of Women's Affairs subventions have been provided to the Girl Guides Association, Girl's Industrial Union, Women's Self Help, NOW, Paredos and the YWCA.

Most of these recommendations have now been implemented.

## CHILDREN

The new foster care programme will be greatly expanded.

Persons fostering children will receive adequate financial assistance from Government.

Where institutional care is still needed, the BLP Government will provide more Group Homes.

The foster care programme has been a great success. Some 27 children have been placed in foster homes and all the placings have been successful. These children were all under 5 years at the time of placing and have been in their foster homes for 3 or 4 years.

Foster parents receive \$35 a week per child in addition to clothing, medical attention and reimbursement of bus fares.

Six such Group Homes have been provided for children up to 16 years of age. 12-15 children live in each home where there is a greater family atmosphere and more individual attention.

# Promises Performance

The BLP will continue to increase day care facilities.

The integration of mentally handicapped children into Day Care Centres and Childrens' Homes will continue along with the establishment of a Centre for mentally retarded children.

100 places have been provided through the expansion of existing facilities and the building of new Centres at Sayers Court, Haynesville and Nightingale.

This policy has been continued and the Party has increased its subvention to the Childrens Development Centre to \$200,000 as part of its contribution to the care of the handicapped.

## YOUTH

The Government will substantially expand the staff of the Youth Affairs Section.

Responsibility for youth affairs was transferred to the Community Development Department in June 1985 which has allowed greater coordination in the institution of programmes designed for the youth. Financial assistance has been provided to youth groups to assist with the development of individual and community projects. The establishment of the IYY Committee and its subsequent report has provided an avenue for the youth to make recommendations to the Government on matters affecting young people. This report is presently being studied by various Government departments.

A Youth Centre will be established.

The emphasis on Community Centres has caused this project to be deferred since in effect the services intended to be provided there are now being provided throughout the country with all the advantages of decentralisation.

## SPORT

The BLP will continue to pursue its objective of providing every community with its own sports complex.

Towards this end 7 pavilions, 15 playing fields and 4 hard courts were constructed across the island. Work is in progress at Elkes Pasture and construction should commence shortly on two pavilions at Content and Gibbons; playing fields at Black Bess, Checker Hall and Waterford and a hard court at Oistins.

The BLP will complete its present plans for the construction of an Indoor Sports Facility.

An agreement has been reached for a loan and technical assistance from the People's Republic of China in this regard and construction will commence shortly at Whitepark.

The BLP will ensure that the National Sports Council continues to provide gear for sporting organisations of limited resources.

The Sports Council has continued to assist national, school and club teams in this respect by providing gear for football, netball, and basketball, in addition to giving financial assistance for overseas tours.

Duty free concessions will be provided for certain sporting equipment.

The National Sports Council has been granted duty free concessions with effect from April 1986. One national sporting body also received duty free concessions. Consumption taxes on sporting equipment and musical instruments have been abolished.

Sporting facilities will be constructed so that they can be floodlit after dark.

There was a complete replacement of the lighting system at the National Stadium as well as the installation of lights at the Netball Stadium. The sports facility at Princess Royal has also benefitted from this programme as well as three other areas where there is a high population density.

## COMMUNITY CENTRES

Renovation and refurbishing of community centres will continue in order to update activities at these centres.

We have done better than promised. Apart from general renovation, major upgrading has taken place at Deacons and Bathsheba and new centres have been built at Baywoods, Sion Hill, Boscobelle, Rock Hall, Weston and Clapham. Construction has started at Elkes Pasture and will begin shortly at Eden Lodge, Parish Land and Bank Hall. In addition, several buildings formerly used as public baths have been converted for use as Centres.

# Promises Performance

The BLP will continue to use these Centres as locations for the Skills Training Project.

Some 15 Centres teaching some 24 skills are utilised for this purpose with immediate plans calling for the expansion of the number of Centres to 27 in 1986. Wherever possible, the Centres are used as multi-purpose complexes catering to sporting, social, cultural and skills training activities.

## LAW AND ORDER

Recruitment of more policemen

Since 1981, 237 additional policemen have been recruited. The present strength of the Force is 1,200.

Improved pay and conditions

Since 1981, Policemen have had increases of pay every two years. A Duty Allowance Scheme and a Special Operations Fund have been set up to compensate Policemen for extra work.

Intensification of training

Since 1981, some 102 Policemen have been trained locally and overseas e.g. Miami, Puerto Rico, U.K., Canada.

Improved Crime Prevention

Resident Beat Officer Scheme, Juvenile Liaison Scheme and Neighbourhood Watch Programme set up.

New Police Headquarters

Preliminary work is being done on a new Headquarters at Wildey.

More resources for equipment

Since 1981, Government has improved and increased the fleet of vehicles, installed new telecommunications equipment and provided other technical equipment for specialist units of the Force.

Improved station facilities

A new station has been built at Oistins and renovations have taken place at Central, District "A", District "D", Belleplaine, Holetown. A new Court at St. George will start in fiscal year '85-'86.

Improved Public Relations

A Public Relations Department has been set up and is functioning well.

New Complaints Procedure

The Attorney-General announced in September 1985 that he is examining with the police the setting up of a new complaints procedure.

## DEALING WITH CRIMINALS

A Young Offenders' Act  
A Department of Correctional  
Services

Following implementation of the Simmons Committee Report on Dodds and the establishment of the Juvenile Liaison Scheme, there was a sharp decline in juvenile delinquency and the first two promises have been deferred. Government is constantly monitoring juvenile delinquency. A Rehabilitation of Offenders Act has been circulated for comments by relevant groups.

Non-custodial Sentences.

Community Services Order

Community Services Orders are in place plus an expanded system of legal aid.

Trades for those in custody

More trades are being taught in prison and facilities for training in prison have been expanded.

Stiffer penalties for drugs trafficking

In 1982 the Narcotics Act was amended and very heavy penalties introduced.

Drug Advisory Panel

A Task force on Drugs has been established and was announced by the Attorney-General on October 15, 1985. This is a inter-departmental organisation without any political membership.

Establishment of a Family Court

This is functioning under the Family Law Act though not specifically designated as such.

Criminal Appeal Act

Enacted.

# Promises Performance

## Judicial Review

Provided for under the new Rules of the Supreme Court. The Administrative Tribunals Legislation is in Force.

## Law Reform

### New Consumer Legislation

New Sale of Goods and Hire Purchase Laws have been drafted.

### Company and Business Law

A new Companies Act was passed in 1982 and there has been necessary amendment to the International Business Companies Act. A new Foreign Sales Corporation Act has been passed. 256 FSCs have been registered.

### Intellectual Property Law

New Copyright Act passed 1982.

### Criminal Law

Several amending statutes have been passed modernising the criminal law.

### New Defamation Bill

Consultations with interested parties are taking place on a new Draft Defamation Bill. This Bill has not been passed but work on it has been reactivated.

### Unfair Dismissals Act

A Draft Bill has been submitted to the Ministry of Labour for further consideration.

## Legal Records and the Law Courts

Funds will be provided to ensure publication of Law Reports.

This has been done and the Barbados Law Reports are being published in conjunction with the U.W.I.

Legal documents will be microfilmed.

Work has begun on microfilming documents in the Registration Office.

### New Supreme Court Complex

Preliminary and re-design work is being done on a New Supreme Court Complex. Work should start in the Calendar year 1986.

### New Magistrates' Courts.

New Court built at Oistins. Work will start in fiscal year '85-'86 at Charles Rowe Bridge and in '86-'87 on new courts at St. Thomas and the Airport. Refurbishing has been done to other Courts.

## DEFENCE

Events within Barbados, the Caribbean and elsewhere have proved the need for Barbados to have a limited Defence Force.

The Labour Party will maintain a moderate level of defence expenditure.

We will continue to explore the co-ordination of our Coast Guard's work and services with those Caribbean islands nearest us.

Once again the wisdom of the Party's policy on Defence has proved to be correct. Our action in Grenada in 1983 not only restored peace and democracy to that island, but considerably reduced the threat of destabilisation to the wider Caribbean and restored political stability to the region.

Expenditure on the Force over the last 5 years has been kept at a level that does not compromise the Force's efficiency, while at the same time not burdening the taxpayers.

Five Coast Guard Training Courses have been organised between St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Barbados, Dominica, Antigua, Grenada, and St. Kitts. In addition, naval exercises have been organised with United States assistance. Assistance has also been given by our Coast Guard in repairing and maintenance of equipment for St. Vincent and Grenada Coast Guard vessels.

# Promises Performance

A Barbadian crew is being trained and will sail the Coast Guard flagship Trident from Britain to Barbados.

The Coast Guard will assist our fishermen and yachtsmen in search and rescue missions.

The BLP will expand the Skills Training Programme and will institute a National Service Programme.

More training facilities will be provided for technical personnel and officers of the BDF.

A number of pilots will be recruited as officers and flying and flight engineering training will be given to other suitable members of the Defence Force.

Technical training in communications, engineering, navigation and other skills.

HMBS Trident was accepted in September 1981 and arrived in Barbados in November 1981. Crew training in Britain included gunnery, seamanship, diving, engineering and communications.

The Coast Guard has undertaken 334 such missions since 1981.

Responsibility for National Youth Training has been transferred entirely to the National Training Board, but the BDF will run a Skills Action Programme paid for by the NTB, which will include 'Discipline Training', First Aid, Map Reading, Navigation and Civics.

Since 1981 some 384 members of the BDF have been trained overseas as against 79 from 1978-80.

It has not been possible to recruit existing civilian pilots to join the BDF but efforts are being made to train existing BDF personnel who have basic training to become qualified pilots. Two BDF members have received training overseas as aviation technicians.

Such training has been conducted in ground communications, maritime communications and navigation.

## IMMIGRATION & CITIZENSHIP

An Immigration Appeals Tribunal will be set up.

The Tribunal was inaugurated in 1981 and re-designated as the Immigration Review Committee by an amendment to the Immigration Act in 1984. From its inception to date the Committee has dealt with 547 appeals.

## INFORMATION

Co-operate with other Caricom countries in the establishment of a Caribbean Information System.

Establish a National Information System embracing the Public Library and the GIS.

Encourage the development of the Barbados Museum by increased grants and with the provision of training for museologists.

Enact legislation for the preservation of antiquities and restricting their export. The Government will continue its policy of purchasing documents, maps and historic relics of importance to Barbados.

This has been achieved through Barbados' membership of the Economic Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean which provides such a service through its Documentation Centre in Trinidad.

This has been achieved by the setting up of the National Library Service. Computer technology has been applied to library operations and listing of all serials, unpublished reports and surveys begun. In addition, microfilming of Government records has also begun. Conditions for the storage of documents at the Department of Archives have also been improved. Facilities have been established to enable searches of the Dialog Data Base in the USA for both the public and private sector.

This has been achieved by an increase in the annual subvention given to the Museum from \$50,000 to \$300,000. In addition, the Government has accepted the responsibility for the physical renovation and extension of the Museum along with the provision of competent technical staff.

This legislation has been enacted with the result that the flow of antique furniture, in particular, out of the island has been stemmed. This policy has been implemented with the purchase of various maps, prints and documents, both locally and overseas.

# Promises Performance

## Publications Media

A re-elected BLP administration will do all in its power to encourage local or Caricom interests to complete the task of repatriating the media.

The re-development of the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation will be given fresh impetus.

Training of journalists in the broadcast and print media and in the Government Information Service will be encouraged with a view to improving the level of programming and journalistic practice.

In fulfilling this policy the Party issued operating licences to Barbados Rediffusion, which was acquired by local interests, and to Voice of Barbados, Barbados Broadcasting Service and Liberty FM. During the period the Advocate-News was also acquired by local ownership.

While the Manifesto originally called for the establishment of a new radio complex at Whitepark, subsequent studies found it better to restrict expansion to the existing site at the Pine. Redevelopment is already in progress with the installation of satellite receiving facilities. The installation of 4 transmitters to support four new channels of STV programming and the construction of the new radio and administrative block is expected to commence shortly.

The GIS has been restructured to improve career opportunities. Increased training opportunities were also provided to allow those in the Service to upgrade their skills. In addition, the latest photographic and other equipment was purchased to improve production quality and capacity.

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

The BLP will foster greater cooperation within the Caribbean Community.

Promote closer bilateral or trilateral relations with individual countries or groups of countries within the region.

Emphasise the worldwide protection of human rights, including civil, political and economic rights.

Labour unstintingly for a new world international economic order.

Fight for racial equality, the downfall of apartheid and the liberation of colonial peoples, particularly in Africa and the Caribbean.

Under the BLP, Barbados continues to be a leader in the Caribbean, our role in spearheading Commonwealth efforts in defence of the sovereignty of Belize, along with our courageous leadership role in liberating the people of Grenada have demonstrated that we are committed and capable of more than just talk in defending the freedom of our neighbours. The Party welcomed the renewal of Caribbean dialogue at the Heads of Government level in Ocho Rios in 1982 and it was at that meeting that we took the lead in calling for Human Rights provisions in the Caricom Treaty, a matter which we continue to actively pursue. Barbados was also the first country to implement the provisions of the Nassau Understanding in 1984. We continue to speak out on trade issues affecting the spirit of the Caricom Agreement and have been consistent in our efforts to revive the CMCF. Barbados also hosted the Sixth Caricom Heads of Government Conference in 1985.

As a result of the Grenada Rescue Mission closer bilateral ties have been formed with Grenada and the OECS States through the Regional Security System of which Barbados is a member.

Barbados continues to be in the forefront in defence of human rights and democratic practice as evidenced by our role in the October 1983 crisis in Grenada. In recognition of our respect for Human Rights, Barbados became the first Caribbean country to have a representative elected to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

In this regard the Government has paid special attention to the development problems of small states both at Commonwealth and United Nations fora. In addition, Barbados was among the first developing nations to fight against graduation by the World Bank on the basis that graduation could seriously erode economic progress made during the past 10 years.

Our representatives at the United Nations have played critical roles in this regard through their chairmanship of committees against Apartheid in Sports. The Government's policy against Apartheid has also been enunciated at Commonwealth Conferences in New Delhi in 1983 and again in The Bahamas in 1985. Important decisions were also taken on Southern Africa and Apartheid at the Sixth Caricom Conference hosted by Barbados in 1985.



# Promises Performance

Pursue a policy of the maintenance and consolidation of peace and join with those who seek to limit both conventional and non-conventional forces and arms.

In pursuance of this policy, Barbados was pleased to chair the UN Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention Against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries. The Government supported the Contadora peace process in Central America and called for a negotiated peace settlement in that region. Barbados also supported the principle of the non-use of violence in the settlement of disputes with regard to the Falklands War.

Promote the interests of small states.

The Grenada crisis of 1983 brought into sharp focus the special security problems faced by small states and as a result of the Government's well known advocacy of the rights of island developing states in the international arena, a member of the Party was appointed to sit on a Committee commissioned by the Commonwealth to study the security problems of small states. Barbados has also fought against graduation, protectionist policies and the retreat from multi-lateralism at the United Nations and more recently has sensitised international opinion to the dangers of drug trafficking operations which use small states as trans-shipment points.

Pursue a transfer of technology and financial resources to meet Barbados' need for development.

The signing of an Exchange of Information Treaty with the US in 1984, qualifies Barbados as a centre for the establishment of Foreign Sales Corporations in addition to allowing conventions held here by US nationals to be tax deductible. The recently signed Double Taxation Treaty with the US has completed the legal framework to establish Barbados as a major offshore and financial services base. Agreements for technical assistance and training opportunities have been reached with Japan, China, Israel and South Korea.

The Party proposes to establish further consulates both honorary and governmental.

Honorary Consuls were appointed in Rio de Janeiro, The Bahamas, Vancouver, The Dominican Republic, Toyko, Oregon, Seattle, San Francisco, Toledo, New Orleans, Miami and New Delhi.

The Party proposes to upgrade the Consulate at Toronto to be a Consulate-General.

This was done in 1981 in addition to the appointment of a Counsellor for Consular Affairs in the United Kingdom in recognition of the need to pay close attention to the welfare of Barbadian immigrants in that country.

We will strengthen bilateral links with the countries of Latin America and work for a reformation of the OAS.

In 1984 Barbados and Venezuela renewed ambassadorial accreditation and in 1986 Brazil upgraded its Mission in Barbados to full Ambassadorial status. Prior to this, Columbia established a resident Embassy in Barbados in 1981. Tourism and trade links with both Venezuela and Brazil were strengthened by air links between Caracas, Manaus and Barbados. In December 1985, Barbados' Foreign Minister played a leading role on behalf of the Caribbean in securing the deletion of Article 8 from the OAS Charter thus paving the way for OAS membership for the previously debarred Belize and Guyana.



**And Keep Barbados First**





Go with this Party  
The action Party  
And Keep Barbados First