

● Jamaica's Premier barraged

on trek problems

at London Press Conference...

# Manley sees Self- Rule by June '62

Says U.K. bar on migrants  
would be bad for world

*IF JAMAICA QUILTS  
FEDERATION,  
TRINIDAD WILL*

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**P**REMIER Norman Manley said today the West Indian Federation would collapse if Jamaica seceded, and that the question of whether Jamaica seceded or not would be decided later this year.

Mr. Manley who arrived in London last night — the first leader of the West Indies delegation to do so — to attend the Independence Conference beginning on Wednesday, made this statement at a Press conference held at Howard Hotel where he is staying along with other members of the Jamaica delegation.

But while Federation and the London Conference were the reasons why the conference was called, the representatives of London newspapers, radio, and television were more interested in shooting him questions about West Indian migration to the United Kingdom.

They asked one or two questions about the coming conference, then swung almost all at once into a barrage of questions on migration which Jamaica's Premier under the blaze of television klieg lights, or in direct discussion with newspapermen parried and threw back as he turned the issue into one of colour problem, rather than of economic necessity.

Mr. Manley said the concern being expressed in Britain over the number of Jamaican and other West Indian migrants was not based on housing shortages or other economic problems as the questioners suggested, but on skin colour.

### Colour

One reporter seized upon a pastoral letter sent out yesterday by Cardinal Godfrey, Archbishop of Westminster, and asked Mr. Manley what were his comments on the Archbishop's suggestion "that the influx of migrants into Britain created a severe housing problem, and was disruptive of social life in Britain".

Mr. Manley replied that as far as he had seen it reported, the Archbishop had made reference only to housing and not to social life, but if he had, that would be a highly extravagant view.

Mr. Manley said he had only seen a reference to housing, and here again he disagreed with the Archbishop that housing had anything to do with the problem.

England would still have a housing problem if there were no West Indian migrants; Britain had had that problem since the war. It had it now.

Mr. Manley went on "The fact is that the problem is a colour problem, but that is not an English problem; it is a world problem. It is a problem in America, in England, in Africa where it is rapidly reversing itself.

"I think if your pressure compels your politicians to bar coloured people from England, everyone will know it is because they are coloured, and I don't think you can solve the colour problem of the world by running away from it.

"Until the world accepts all the races of mankind in free community, it is not a civilized world, and that is all there is to it, and I add that the Commonwealth itself would be gravely hurt".

Mr. Manley said that he was against control of the movement of migrants, and that the Jamaica Government did not intend to place restrictions on migrants although they screened them so that people with criminal records do not come to England.

The English newsmen tried to pin the Premier down on the question of freedom of movement within the West Indies Federation. Mr. Manley said that that was of concern only to Trinidad. Jamaica had no restrictions on West Indian or other Commonwealth citizens — in fact more Englishmen in terms of percentage, migrated to Jamaica annually than Jamaicans migrated to England.

The only restriction in Jamaica on the entry of Commonwealth citizens was confined, he said, to a small class of people — printers — and that was recent where the Government's permission had to be obtained for printers to enter the island for "special reasons".

On Federation and the Independence Conference Mr. Manley made the following points: (1) He expected the conference to be a success; (2) he expected that a date would be set for Independence between April and June next year, and certainly not later than June; (3) he did not agree that the Federal powers were too weak, but thought they were just right and would allow the Federation to grow.

Flying by way of New York where he overnighted on Friday, Mr. Manley, Mrs. Manley, Mr. Vincent McFarlane, and Mrs. Carmen Gauntlett one of the Premier's secretaries arrived at London Airport Saturday night, and were given VIP reception.

He will spend Monday and Tuesday in discussion with British officials on many matters affecting Jamaica's economy, and other subjects important to the island.

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## 'Merely because...'

Gleaner Special Service

LONDON, May 28:

Jamaica's Premier, Hon. Norman Manley faced a barrage of questions on Federation, immigration, and the West Indies Independence, when he met pressmen at his London hotel, this morning.

Federation: Mr. Manley said "Without Jamaica, Trinidad will quit Federation, and it will fall".

Immigration: "It would be a bad thing if public opinion compelled British politicians to put a bar on immigrants which everyone would know is a bar merely because they are coloured".

Independence: "These vital talks must succeed and obstacles must be overcome."

Mr. Manley, who arrived in London last night with his delegation, called the talks, due to begin in Lancaster House on Wednesday, May 31, "the most important in the history of the West Indies."

More than 50 newsmen and television cameramen assembled at Mr. Manley's hotel to quiz him on the talks, Federation and Jamaica's attitude to it, and Jamaica's attitude to immigration to Britain.

The Premier answered questions for nearly two hours, parrying difficult ones and occasionally turning to his Adviser, Mr. Alan Morris, and Press Officer, Mr. A. E. T. Henry, for specific details.

## 'Hard going'

"There is need for a stable West Indian nation in the Western Hemisphere" he said. "This conference is not going to be an easy one, and the important question of amendments in the constitution is going to make parts of it hard going."

"Trinidad which has the most viable economy, has categorically stated that if Jamaica pulls out of Federation after the referendum, Trinidad will not stay in."

"I think that it can be assumed that for the time being, if that happened, the Federation would collapse."

Mr. Manley answering questions about the much-deferred referendum said "It will definitely be held this year. If Jamaica says yes, Federation will continue. If Jamaica says no, Federation will fall".

He refused to be drawn into speculating on the outcome of the referendum, even when reminded of a recent speech in Jamaica in which he was reported to have said "We will win".

The Premier was closely pressed about West Indian immigration to Britain which has been the topic for much discussion in the House of Commons, recently.

"The colour problem will not be solved by stopping or limiting immigrants coming to England," he said, "I may discuss migration while I am here".

Was he worried about the flow — he put it as 30,000 Jamaicans last year — of migrants?

"Certainly not", he snapped firmly. "Only in so far as I am worried about anything that creates tension between England and the West Indies. If our people were accepted here without misgiving, which seems to come into the question, I would not be worried at all".

Mr. Manley disagreed with the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster who wrote in a pastoral letter which received large Press space today, that West Indian migrants live in squalid conditions.

Cardinal Godfrey had written "Coloured immigrant families—sometimes eight or nine people—crowd into a couple of rooms".

The Archbishop said that this from both the point of morals and hygiene "can be disastrous for the national well-being and family life".

Said Mr. Manley with a tolerant grin. "This is a slightly extravagant view. If a migrant is prepared to accept certain difficulties about housing, he is the best to judge what he accepts".

After the conference I asked Mr. Manley if he was aware that many established migrants are leaning toward the idea that a migrant should be restricted before leaving the West Indies. He laughed.

"Every human attainment sooner or later becomes a vested interest," he said.

He added that the mission to Africa has not yet returned to Jamaica, but said that from what little news filtered through to Kingston, the mission was having some success, and it "seemed hopeful" that success would be the outcome of its investigations.

Mr. Manley will visit West Indian migrants in London in free time between conference meetings.

LONDON, May 28, (Reuter):

Mr. Norman Manley, Jamaican Premier, who is leading his country's delegation at the West Indies Independence Conference which opens here on Wednesday, speaking at a Press conference at a London hotel, said the world's colour problem could not be solved "merely by running away from it."

"I think until the world accepts all the races of the world on an equal basis it is not a civilized world," he declared.

He was worried about migration to Britain from Jamaica only in so far as it created disharmony between the two countries.

"Frankly I think it would be a bad thing for the world if public pressure compelled English politicians to impose a bar on migrants."

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