

Who puts parliamentary system in disrespect?

MINISTER PLEDGES FREE PERIODIC ELECTIONS

ATTEMPTS to pin the "totalitarian" and "undemocratic" labels onto the majority party were completely smashed by Mrs. Janet Jagan who conducted the ministerial press conference last Saturday. In answer to a pressman's query, Mrs. Jagan turned the tables on those who accuse the majority party of seeking to destroy parliamentary democracy. She charged those who level these accusations with bringing parliamentary institutions etc disrespect.

reasonable to assume that Dr. Jagan would consider it unnecessary to have elections after he has attained full power." **Socialism**

To return to your question, I have seen it reported in the Press as you state in your question that Fidel Castro has decided not to hold elections. I have not seen any report that it is his intention to make Cuba a member of the Soviet bloc. This view has in fact been expressed by the U.S. State Department.

I have however seen a report in which Dr. Castro states that he means to make Cuba into a Socialist State but this is by no means the same thing as making it a member of the Soviet bloc

It is the declared intention of the Governments of India and Ghana to make their countries into Socialist states but this does not mean that they are committing themselves to anyone of the power blocs of the world. In fact, both of those countries are pursuing a policy of neutrality and of looking for friendship and

The question was: Since the present Government has shown much interest in developments in Cuba, and has succeeded in selling our rice to the Cuban Government can you please tell me what you think of Fidel Castro's decision not to hold elections any longer and his expressed intention to make Cuba a member of the Soviet bloc?

The Minister of Labour, Health, and Housing replied as follows;

I am glad you asked this question as I see that the "Daily Chronicle" in its issue of Thursday May 4 has a headline "Jagan may end elections after P.P.P. gains power". This is the headline to a statement by Mr. Cecil Gray, Leader of the N.L.F. "that since Dr. Cheddi Jagan admires Dr. Fidel Castro's politics, it is

ment in which the people is expressed at regular intervals of

free elections. If you want a more answer, let me state now emphatically, I believe in free elections at regular intervals.

Real Threat

It is not we who brought parliamentary institutions into disrepute. The suspension of the constitution, the elections in 1957 under a rigged and biased system of constituencies, the gerrymandered constituencies, the delay in assent to the Schools Act all these are stamped a disrespect for parliamentary procedure and institutions and it is such actions which pose the real threat to the parliamentary system in British Guiana.

Complete Model

The point Mr. Gray is making to make is not understood. Admiration does not necessarily mean that one models oneself in every detail on what is admired.

When one looks at the present stability of the United Kingdom in U.S.A., one must get that this respectability has only very recently won.

In America there has been a long record of [cont'd on page 12]



aid to all who are willing to help.

Free Elections

On the question of elections I would refer you to Section 15 of the Report of the Constitutional Committee in which the views of the majority party on the future status of this territory are given. The Report states, and I quote, that "Members agreed by a majority to recommend that British Guiana should be an independent state within the Commonwealth with Her Majesty the Queen as Sovereign represented by a Governor and a Cabinet and Parliamentary system of Government."

This clearly means that this Government is committed to a form of Govern-

DRINK FERRAZ'S PEANUT PUNCH
For Goodness Sake
A REAL NUT AND MILK DRINK

Nagasar Sawh's Mill
Head Office 5-6 Lombard St, Georgetown
B. G. LUMBER & TIMBER
Prompt Service and Delivery

FOR A COOL SATISFYING SMOKE

LIGHTHOUSE CIGARETTES

Wick
Article
The Editor.
I am a Guianese interested in the situation in my country feel that the Progressive Party dynamic leader returned to power August election continue to mismanage the country on the road and financial in
I have read reports of our local daily that Dr. Jagan Percy Armstrong attending his presence. I thoroughly the Doctor be one of those read Mr. Armstrong's articles and reports are generally slanted a sinister purpose
They are w contents and the Doctor should ban imposed upon this way he would spread a certain spreading hatred chief in B.G. by of the privilege tion of facts.
I have also read indignation a series of wicked and vicious articles written by "the lance". The article even worth the paper on which written. By his writer has betrayed evil and macabre has caused much to the Daily Chronicle whose columns published.
"Vigilance" is foster race-hatred mixed communities shame that the Daily Chronicle should have
ARE

Three dollars a day minimum for Sawmill & Timber grant workers

Orders in Council
ed in the Official Gaz-
May 6 put into law
omendations of the
Councils established
industries—sawmill
ber grant.

Grant 'industry and Mr.
Pizpatrick for the Sawmill
industry.

Following are the pres-
cribed minimum rates of
wages for timber grant workers:

Unskilled labourers—	\$3.00
"skilled" —	3.24
labourers, Grade II	3.41
labourers, Grade I	3.53 to 6.25
Machine operators—	
D6 and over	\$5.04
under D6	4.08
trucks	3.41

Following are the prescrib-
ed minimum rates for work-
ers in the Sawmill industry

Unskilled labourers—	3.00
"skilled" —	3.24
labourers, grade II	3.24
labourers, grade I	3.79
Millmen grade II	3.53
Millmen grade I	4.08
Trig (bandmill) opera- tors	5.04

It will be recalled that
Wages Councils were
set up some time ago with
representatives of the trade
unions and the employers
in the timber industry under the
auspices of Mr. H.J.M.
and for the Timber

Hours Reduced For Watchmen

Under an Order in
Council, No. 5 of 1961
there is a new definition
of watchmen to cover
"any person wholly or main-
ly employed to watch over
any specific property" which
by this now includes watch-
ing over machinery, etc.

Hours of work have been
reduced from 60 to 48 hours
and the differential in wages
has been removed, which
formerly set out a lower
rate for rural areas.

Parliamentary Disrespect

(from page 4)

Discrimination against minori-
ties and of organisations
like the Ku Klux Klan.
There has been a Civil War
and more than one U.S.
President has been assassin-
ated.

In the United Kingdom

the people once put their
King on trial and to death
and there have been many
examples of revolution and
civil disorder and until the
other day, people were dis-
enfranchised because of their
religion. Catholics were
only comparatively recently
allowed to vote in the Uni-
ted Kingdom.

Would He?

It is too easy to regard
the events in the Congo
with horror but the present
disorder in that country can
be matched chapter for
chapter in the history of
America and the United
Kingdom.

Because Mr. Gray is an
admirer of both these coun-
tries, are we to believe that
in the unlikely event of his
being elected he would use
political assassination and
religious persecution because
these things have happened
in the countries which he
admires?

Religion & Politics

[from page 11]

Even the Episcopal (Protes-
tant) Bishop of Puerto Rico
came out against the dicta-
torial attitude of the Catho-
lic Bishops. He stressed the
fact that democracy assumes

the separation of
state and any
either side to
other is to the
both. 'Just as
secret and sacred
"so must each
accountable for
God".

Voters

The voters in
are wiser than
thought they
result of last
General Election
ing proof that
like the mixing
and politics.

But more startling
revelations concern
al practices in which
and C.A.P. leaders
involved. The voters
who falsely accuse
of unchristian and
acts now stand

The Legislative
tee now investigating
at the election
uncovered more
cases. According
Comptroller, the
dead people, or
deaths, and of many
not sign registra-
tions were included
the Catholic party

The crushing
C.A.P. in Puerto
another disaster
the forces of police

(cont'd on page 12)

Don't Let Mother Down

